MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 NOVEMBER 1980

Iran Domestic Affairs

Raja'i Interview--In an interview with a Tehran radio correspondent, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i defended his choices for Cabinet ministers from charges by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and others that they lack "expertise" and knowledge in their appointed fields. Declaring that a revolutionary government must put "ideology before expertise," Raja'i asserted "expertise must be harnessed" and controlled by ideology because "ideology should dominate the basic issues" in a revolutionary society. Asked about his choice of ministers to head the foreign affairs, finance, commerce and education and training ministries, Raja'i noted he had submitted names to the president but that the latter has failed to respond. Raja'i said Bani-Sadr's complaints about the Cabinet's passing resolutions and making laws without submitting them to him or the Majlis are ill founded because he has in fact received all Cabinet resolutions as stipulated in the constitution.

Bani-Sadr Speech--In a speech at a Tehran mosque on 20 November--reported by AFP but not monitored from Tehran media--Bani-Sadr returned to the theme of individual liberty that he had raised in his speech to a mass rally on 19 November. According to AFP, he declared that "we are losing the freedom to speak out, a freedom that has already suffered several severe blows." He claimed that certain newspapers are being used to mount attacks on rivals and that the Voice and Vision, Iran's radio and television, has not "accepted free discussion" as a means of solving problems. He denounced censorship, illegal imprisonment and growing intolerance in Iran, saying the "fear of these clubs is as bad as fear of the SAVAK." Bani-Sadr revealed that Iran and Iraq had been negotiating various border questions just before the Gulf war began and said it was Iraq that had "slammed the door" on any possible settlement. Admitting "grave economic difficulties," he said Iran is "locked in total war outside and within."

Newspaper Guidelines--Following an earlier Tehran radio report that Ayatollah Khomeyni appointed a supervisor for KEYHAN, the radio reported that the Supreme Defense Council Publicity Headquarters met with the editors of various newspapers to discuss newspaper content and announced it will take "necessary action" against newspapers that deviate from guidelines approved at the meeting. Warning that "certain people" are trying to "create division and pessimism," the Publicity Headquarters said the "country must prosecute individuals who...cause pessimism among the valiant and Muslim Iranian nation."

Wartime Court in Ramhormoz--Ahvaz radio announced that a "special wartime court" headed by 'Ali Mortazavi, a representative of Ayatollah Khalkhali, has been set up in Ramhormoz due to "the present sensitive situation and the activities of counterrevolutionaries and the enemy's fifth column."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Bani-Sadr, Raja'i Meet Palme--Commenting on his just concluded talks with UN envoy Olof Palme, who is in Tehran to discuss ways of ending the Gulf war, Prime Minister Raja'i told a Tehran radio correspondent that Iraq must first admit its "act of aggression" in invading Iran and withdraw its troops before Iran can consider any cease-fire. He added no problem can be solved just "by sitting around a table." In a separate meeting with Palme, President Bani-Sadr reiterated the same points, stressing that Iran cannot consider any peace proposal until Iraqi forces withdraw, Tehran radio reported.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported continued heavy fighting around Susangerd, Ahvaz and Abadan with Iranian forces again moving across the Bahmanshir River to attack Iraqi positions. The radio said Iranian forces recaptured Khvormuj and continued to advance on the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Sumar fronts. The Iranian Air Force was active again, according to an armed forces communique carried by Tehran radio, striking at enemy armor and troop concentrations around Abadan. An Iraqi General Command communique, reported by INA, said Iraqi helicopters hit Iranian targets around Susangerd.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Summit--PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told UAE newspapers that the PLO has "not requested the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to approve the postponement of the summit conference." In a statement reported by QNA, 'Arafat noted that the Syrian-Palestinian working paper submitted to the seven-member Arab committee meeting in Amman enjoyed "unanimous approval." AFP reported, however, that Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur confirmed that Syria will not attend the summit and continues to insist on its postponement "until there is an improvement in the atmosphere currently prevailing in the Arab world." Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam announced, according to Damascus radio, that the Syrian decision to participate would depend on the outcome of the Arab foreign ministers meeting, which, he said, should settle basic points on the summit's agenda. In any case, Khaddam said, President Hafiz al-Asad would not participate in the summit before the "purification of the Arab atmosphere." AFP reported Khaddam as saying Syria wants to see the reestablishment of "normal relations among the Arab countries" before participating in a summit session.

Amman radio announced that the Arab foreign ministers meeting to "pave the way for the convocation of the 11th Arab summit" begins in Amman on 21 November and that the foreign ministers of Syria, Algeria and the PDRY will attend as well as the chief of the PLO Political Department. INA reported that the agenda of the foreign ministers conference will include a draft program covering "joint Arab action by which to confront the Zionist enemy" and a strategy of joint economic action.

Syrian-Jordanian Relations--In an interview with Damascus television, a former Jordanian Government official said there are "close links" between the command of the Muslim Brotherhood organization and King Husayn of Jordan. The official, Muhammad Ziyad Silkah, said he had accompanied Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran on an unspecified date to a Muslim Brotherhood training camp near Ajlun in Jordan whose purpose was, according to Badran, "to change the regime in Syria." Damascus radio said the interview proved the extent of the Jordanian Government's involvement in "the killings and sabotage" carried out by agents inside Syria.

Afghanistan

AFP, citing Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad, reported that after a 5-day campaign to dislodge Muslim insurgents from positions in the Panjshir valley north of Kabul, Soviet troops were forced to retreat on 18 November. Kabul radio reported on 20 November that a large number of "party activists, Sarandoy and patriots from Kabul Province" left for the provinces to "eliminate the last bastions of the enemies of the Sawr Revolution."

The radio said Minister of Communications Aslam Watanjar made a speech to a meeting to mark their departure.

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REPORTAGE ON AMMAN COMMITTEE WORK, SUMMIT PLANS

Committee Work Program

JN210614 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] The Arab seven-member committee has approved the proposed work program concerning the bases of a joint Arab strategy in the political, economic and military fields. The committee ended its meetings early this morning after having completed the drafting of the work program and discussing its provisions in detail in the service of the supreme pan-Arab interests.

Arab League sources have stated that the discussions of the ministers participating in the seven-member committee were held in a fraternal atmosphere that reflected the determination to emerge with decisions that serve the general pan-Arab objectives.

Further Details

JN211132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Dispatch by the INA team in Amman]

[Text] Amman, 21 Nov (INA)--The seven-member committee ended at dawn today the formulation of a joint Arab action program project to confront the Zionist enemy in the coming stage. This program will be submitted to the Arab foreign ministers conference when it begins its meetings today. The INA team has learned that the program project includes three main political and military articles for Arab action during the coming stage.

In the program project, the seven-member committee called on the Arab countries to adhere in letter and spirit to the resolutions of the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences as well as the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summits; to seek to prevent any deviation or bypassing of these resolutions; and to take suitable measures against the parties which do not adhere to them.

The committee affirmed that the Palestinian issue is a crucial Arab issue and the essence of the conflict with the Zionist enemy. The committee also affirmed that the struggle to regain Arab rights in Palestine and other occupied Arab land is a pan-Arab responsibility and that all Arabs should share this responsibility.

The draft program also includes a call to all the Arab countries to purify the atmosphere by halting information campaigns, exerting urgent efforts to solve existing problems or problems which might emerge and forming committees on the highest levels to achieve this goal.

The draft program called on the Arab countries to offer all forms of aid, support and facilities to the struggle of the Palestinian resistance throught the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied land.

The draft program specified the phased objectives of the Arab struggle to liberate all the Arab territories occupied in the June 1967 aggression, to liberate Arab Jerusalem, to adhere to the restoration of the Palestinian people's national rights--including their right to return, determine their future and establish an independent Palestinian state on their national soil--and to consider the issue of Palestine as the issue of all the Arabs. The draft program barred any Arab quarter from acting unilaterally to solve the Palestinian issue in particular and the Arab-Zionist conflict in general unless this is coupled with Arab unanimity.

The program called for the strict enforcement of the boycott against As-Sadat's regime by taking effective measures in this regard and for continued resistance to the Camp David line or any other initiative that stems from this line until it is foiled and its effects removed, while continuing to deal with the Arab people in Egypt so as to preserve the Egyptian land and people as part of the Arab nation and homeland.

The draft program stressed the necessity of using all Arab strategic capabilities to confront the states which support the Zionist entity in the military, economic, political and demographic fields and to use this confrontation as an effective means to bolster the pan-Arab rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

In its draft the committee stated the need for the periodic convocation of an Arab summit conference in November of each year in order to affirm the resolutions of proceding Arab summit conferences. The committee also recommended that the development of the Arab League charter and structure be speeded up in order to bolster the league and enable it to perform its duties and promote joint Arab action.

The committee stressed the need for doubling the Arab efforts being exerted to safeguard Lebanon's safety, sovereignty and territorial unity and for continuing the Lebanese-Palestinian steadfastness in order to confront the Zionist enemy through bolstering the legitimate Lebanese power and backing the Palestinian resistance.

The committee holds that UN Security Council Resolution 242 neither conforms to the principle of Arab rights nor forms a sound base for the settlement of the Middle East crisis, particularly the Palestinian issue. The committee rejected any political settlement to the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Zionist conflict since the balance of forces has been upset as a result of the Camp David accords.

The committee called on the Arab states to study the possibility of founding an independent information institution for addressing the outside world in a sophisticated manner and in accordance with a specific plan in order to express an unanimous Arab viewpoint on the palestinian issue and other Arab issues. The committee also called for entrusting the Arab League secretary general with conducting a study of the Arab League organization, program and ways of financing it. The committee stressed the need for the Arab states' agreement on a united formula concerning the issue of the Arab-Zionist conflict at the conferences of international or regional organizations.

The committee called for strengthening cooperation between the Arab League and the OAU and for developing Arab-African relations by contributing to the African struggle against racism and colonialism, preventing the restoration of relations between the African states and the Zionist entity and alienating As-Sadat's regime from the organs of Arab-African cooperation.

The committee stressed the importance of promoting Arab relations with the Latin American countries in various fields, consolidating the role of the nonaligned movement and adhering to its principles, developing cooperation with the nonaligned countries on bilateral and collective levels and seeking to get these countries to sever their relations with the Zionist entity.

The committee recommended continued support and backing for the socialist states by boosting the relations of friendship and cooperation with them, particularly in the economic and political fields, thus enhancing Arab steadfastness.

The committee also recommended that the Arab countries sever their relations with any states that recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of the Zionist entity or that transfers its embassy to Jerusalem.

The political committee denounced the U.S. role, which is manifested by U.S. support for the Zionist occupation, settlement in the Arab territories and attacks on holy Islamic sites, and the U.S. stands in the international rostrums in support of this entity, which contradicts international legitimacy.

The committee denounced the role played by the United States in the signing of the Camp David accords and the hostile U.S. stand on the PLO, a stand which defies the Arab nation. The committee affirmed that the continuation of such a policy will negatively reflect on the U.S. interests and relations with Arab states.

The committee urged the Arab states to continue Arab-European dialogue and to seek through conducting such dialogue to achieve the recognition of the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate respresentative and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in accordance with UN resolutions.

Foreign Ministers Conference

JN202126 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] It has been decided to hold the official opening of the preparatory meeting of the Arab foreign ministers tomorrow morning, following the arrival of all of the Arab delegations.

The Libyan Embassy has notified the Arab League General Secretariat that the Libyan delegation will arrive at a later date to participate in the meeting.

The Arab seven-member committee resumed its meetings this evening to wind up its discussion of the working paper. It is expected to complete its discussion at an early date.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran hosted a dinner banquet this evening in honor of the Arab foreign ministers and the Arab League secretary general. The banquet was attended by the chief of the royal court, the minister of court, the commander in chief of the armed forces and the various ministers. It was also attended by the Arab ambassadors in Amman and high-ranking Jordanian officials.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs; Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, Algerian foreign minister; Salim Salih Muhammad, PDRY foreign minister; and Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Amman today to participate in the Arab foreign ministers conference. They were received in Amman by Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Finance Minister Salim Masa'idah, Interior Minister Sulayman 'Arar and the ambassadors of Syria, Algeria and Libya in Amman.

Muhammad ash-Shaddadi, secretary general of the Arab organization for social defense, also arrived in Amman for the same purpose.

Conference Agenda

JN201914 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 20 Nov (INA)--It was learned here today that the agenda of the Arab foreign ministers' conference, scheduled to begin here later today, includes the following three main articles:

1. A draft program covering joint Arab action by which to confront the Zionist enemy, in light of the working paper prepared by the seven-member committee, which ended its meetings last night.

2. A strategy of joint economic action consisting of seven points, foremost of which are:

A. The pan-Arab economic action charter.
B. The joint Arab development contracts and the means of financing them.
C. The pan-Arab economic plan project for joint Arab economic action.
D. The joint draft agreement for Arab capitals' investment in the Arab homeland.
E. Arab economic relations with the outside world.
F. A strategy for confronting the Zionist threat from the short-, medium- and long-term perspectives.

3. The amendment of the Arab League's charter and regulations, including articles discussed by the members' representatives; the report compiled by the members' representatives on the draft charter and Arab League regulations; the General Secretariat's report on the draft; and the General Secretariat's recommendations to the Arab League council.

The conference will also discuss the statutes on league employees, in accordance with the recommendations of the charter's committee, and the financial and accounting system, in light of the recommendations of the committee formed for the purpose.

Syrian Position

NC201430 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus, 20 Nov (AFP)--Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Nasir Qaddur confirmed today that Syria will not take part in the November 25 Arab summit in Amman, Jordan.

After preparatory talks yesterday in Amman the Arab League announced that Syria would take part.

Mr Qaddur said that the summit's aim was to achieve "a decisive measure in the Arab strategy toward the Zionist enemy," but there was nothing at present to indicate that this would come about.

Syria had therefore asked for postponement of the summit, he said, "until there is an improvement in the atmosphere currently prevailing in the Arab world."

Meanwhile, Mr Qaddur said, "consultations with the parties of the Steadfastness Front (Algeria, Libya, Syria, South Yemen, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation) will be continuing today."

Algerian Foreign Minister Muhammad Ben Yahia was arriving here today to continue his talks with his Syrian opposite number, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

On the results of these talks will depend whether or not Mr Khaddam and Mr Ben Yahia decide to go to Amman for the plenary meeting of Arab foreign ministers, Mr Qaddur said.

Asked about Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi's statement in Amman yesterday that Syria would be at the summit, Mr Qaddur replied that Mr Klibi was speaking in the name of the Arab League, not Syria.

Mr Qaddur expressed hope that the Jordanian authorities would cease the "ill-treatment" of Syrian citizens, adding: "Such treatment will never serve the interests of two fraternal peoples."

Concerning what steps Syria thought of taking against Jordan if the Jordanian authorities persisted in their action, Mr Qaddur said that his country would take the steps required by the national interest.

Mr Qaddur refused to specify what those steps would be, but a well-informed source said that closing land and air frontiers should not be ruled out if Jordan maintained its present attitude.

Syrian Conditions

NC202046 Paris AFP in English 2031 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Amman, 20 Nov (AFP)--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said here today that his country's participation in the 11th Arab summit conference would depend upon the results of the plenary meeting of the foreign ministers.

"I have learned that certain disputed points will be examined in the course of this meeting," Mr Khaddam said, adding that the way in which those points are settled would determine Syria's decision on participation.

The plenary meeting of foreign ministers is scheduled to study a document prepared by a seven-man committee that met here Tuesday and yesterday.

Mr Khaddam told AFP here that Syria had no wish to participate in a summit session if "necessary measures were not taken to re-establish normal relations among the Arab countries."

FOREIGN MINISTERS ARRIVE IN AMMAN FOR CONFERENCE

Syrian, Algerian, PDRY Ministers

JN201919 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1914 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 20 Nov (INA)--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, accompanied by Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar', arrived in Amman tonight to participate in the Arab foreign ministers conference, scheduled to begin here later tonight.

PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad and Chief of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi also arrived in Amman to participate in the conference.

Returning to Amman aboard the same plane was Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, who left Amman for Damascus earlier today.

Moroccan Minister

JN201939 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived in Amman today to take part in the Arab foreign affairs ministers conference.

Speaking to a PETRA-JNA correspondent upon his arrival, Boucetta voiced his optimism that the Arab summit conference will succeed in cleansing the Arab atmosphere; placing the Arab nation on the path of unity, in order to face the Zionist enemy; and charting a plan for decisive and fruitful Arab work in all economic, political and military spheres, so that the nation can rise to the level of its mission and aspirations.

Boucetta expressed the hope that the Amman summit conference will mark a new Arab starting point in coping with challenges and difficulties and that its resolutions may be an extension of the principles and foundations laid during the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences. He added: We in Morocco are quite happy with the sincere fraternal relations with Jordan. I am pleased to convey greetings from His Majesty King Hassan II and the Moroccan people to his Majesty King Husayn and the fraternal Jordanian people.

Tunisian Minister

LD201532 Tunis TAP in English 1315 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, Nov 20 (TAP)--Tunisia will be represented by Mr Hassan Belkhodja, foreign minister, at the ministerial conference due to open this evening in order to prepare the 11th Arab summit scheduled for November 25 in Amman.

Mr Belkhodja arrived on Wednesday evening in the Jordanian capital and declared that the conjuncture on the Arab and international levels compels Arab countries to unite their ranks to strengthen their solidarity and to eliminate all obstacles which slacken their development and their struggle for the recovery of their dignity and rights.

The Tunisian foreign minister expressed optimism for the results of this meeting especially aimed at purifying the inter-Arab atmosphere and at adopting an Arab economic and political joint strategy.

JORDANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AL-QASIM DISCUSSES SUMMIT

LD210833 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 19 Nov 80 p 17

[Interview granted by Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim to Fathi Sharif in Amman--date not given]

[Excerpt] AS-SIYASAH: The Arab summit is being held in extremely critical and important historical conditions in view of the Iraq-Iran war, the dramatic escalation of Arab differences, the change in the U.S. administration and the increasing Israeli intransigence in the occupied territories. Do you believe that the outcome of the summit will provide the Arab citizen with the answer to these developments and will a collective Arab stand be defined toward them?

Al-Qasim: The conditions through which our Arab nation is passing make confronting the fateful challenges and the Israeli aggression, which is aimed at every inch of our territory, difficult. The continuing differences of views among us will obviously enable the enemy to achieve his objectives. These differences make it incumbent upon us to meet and define principles and unified policies and establish a method of dealing with one another. Any further deterioration in inter-Arab relations will widen the gap in the Arab ranks. And since time is not on our nation's side, we must deal promptly with matters and call for a meeting at the highest Arab level. Especially when we have a scheduled summit whose date and place have been fixed in accordance with resolutions from the two Arab summits in Baghdad and Tunis.

Moreover, the Arab foreign ministers have met several times and on various levels. They know in advance the date of the 11th summit and everybody agrees on the need to convene it. In fact, some of them think that the date should be put forward because the process of purifying the Arab atmosphere and putting the Arab house in order should be carried out at the highest level so they can be effective.

To avoid holding any Arab meeting at any level indubitably constitutes disregard of the fact that the passage of time heightens the ferociousness of the enemies around us. Therefore, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan--in its belief in the success of the previous Arab summits in closing our ranks and its desire to consecrate the Arab summits because they are the correct framework for protecting our nation from further disruption, particularly during difficult times--believes that it is necessary and one of our primary national duties that our leaders should get together in order to shoulder their onerous responsibilities, exchange views and adopt the decisions that will lead their peoples to achieve the objectives to which each of them has devoted himself.

AS-SIYASH: The Arab citizen seems to feel that the results of the previous 10 Arab summits, with few exceptions, have not been implemented. Will this conference be different from previous ones or will it be a repetition of them?

AL-QASIM: The previous 10 Arab summits made a positive contribution to maintaining coordination and continuity of Arab solidarity. In any case, we cannot detract from the results of the previous 10 conferences but I can say that the conditions and preparations for the Amman summit have created the feeling that there is a different method of action and of dealing with things for the following reasons:

1. The Amman summit is the second conference to be held in implementation of the framework adopted at the Baghdad summit. Therefore, the convening of this conference is a consecration of the principle of periodic meetings enabling the Arab leaders to review their calculations and evaluate their positions from time to time so that we will not be overtaken by events and then be forced to run after them. Periodic meetings necessitate detailed and thorough study of all potentials and capabilities in the light of the development of events and changes in order to be able to face the political, social, cultural and military challenges at every stage.

2. The Amman summit has been preceded by five meetings at the level of foreign ministers and specialists in the economic and political fields. It has also been preceded by a splendid effort by Arab League organs which have submitted valuable and scientific studies to officials for discussion.

3. The Amman summit has on its agenda the question of adopting a long-term joint strategic Arab action on the political and economic levels. This will be the first time that a comprehensive strategy has been accurately studied and all possibilities have been looked into and taken into account.

AS-SIYASAH: Does the convening of the first Arab summit only 80 km from Jerusalem mean anything to you?

AL-QASIM: We are very happy that Jordan will be honored to receive their majesties, excellencies and highnesses the leaders of the Arab nation on its soil for the 11th summit so that they will be able to see from close quarters the sufferings of the inhabitants of the occupied territories. It will also be a good opportunity for them to see the burdens Jordan is shouldering in carrying out its national duty toward the Arab cause and in all the defense, social, economic and development fields.

AS-SIYASAH: Kuwait has been the target of two Iranian air attacks on its territory. How do you explain this behavior on the part of Iran and do you believe that this serious incident could be repeated with other Gulf countries? Do you expect Iranian aircraft to carry out a similar irresponsible action against Jordan because of its positive national stand with Iraq?

AL-QASIM: From the first moment Jordan received the news of the Iranian aggression on the Kuwait territories it hastened to adopt the natural and national stand on the side of its sister Kuwait with the same spirit that it sided with sisterly Iraq without thinking of the consequences. This is consistent with our stand whenever an Arab country comes under foreign attack. We believe that all the Arab countries must stand with sisterly Kuwait. There should be no negligence whatsoever and we should not let any Arab country face aggression alone because we are all the targets of aggression, albeit with different methods and at different times.

What Kuwait was subjected to and what Iraq is being subjected to has been preoccupying us. We always hoped that Iran would establish its relations with the Arab world on the basis of mutual respect and the principles of the true Islamic spirit, which advocates justice and the need for Muslims to stand united, and that it would not commit aggression, trample upon the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of its sisterly Islamic states or violate their legitimate rights.

AS-SIYASAH: One of the first desires expressed by President-elect Reagan following his victory was to meet with King Husayn. How would you explain this and do you believe that there is a possibility of an early meeting in Washington between the president-elect and King Jusayn and do you expect U.S. pressure to get Jordan to participate in the autonomy negotiations?

Al-Qasim: This is a positive initiative by a party that has an international responsibility in contributing to reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem. However, we affirm that Jordan has been and still is conducting a dialogue with the world from a firm and clear position based on the need to uphold justice. Jordan is prepared to meet with every country showing earnestness on the basis of the principles that it deems a suitable basis for a just and comprehensive solution of the conflict in the area. These principles are compatible with the resolutions adopted by the Arab leaders at the Baghdad summit, which the leaders considered the minimum acceptable to reach a just and normal peace. These are:

1. The withdrawal of Israel from all the territories it occupied in 1967.

2. The return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty.

3. Guaranteeing the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination under the PLO's leadership.

Jordan has been and is still the target of many pressures but these will not make it deviate from the national line which it has adopted for itself and accepted out of its belief in its national commitments, a line that has been strengthened by resolutions of the Arab leaders' meetings.

PDRY

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR ARAB MINISTERS CONFERENCE

LD202152 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Summary] The PDRY delegation to the Arab foreign ministers conference in Amman left Aden this morning for Amman. It was led by Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad. In a statement shortly before his departure, the foreign minister said that the PDRY delegation was attending the conference to help restore Arab solidarity.

"The brother foreign minister said Democratic Yemen will demand the adoption of practical resolutions to confront the imperialist American military presence in the region, which constitutes a direct threat to the security, sovereignty and safety of the Arab peoples. He added: We will demand the adoption of practical measures against the American imperialist interests because of America's intransigent stands and its permanent backing of the Zionist enemy and denial of all Arab rights, particularly the rights of the Palestinian Arabs. Brother Salim Salih called for clearing the Arab air and resolving the minor differences between Arab states as the first step in the creation of a good atmosphere that would permit agreement on a minimum program for confronting imperialism and Zionism."

YAR

CANADA'S TRUDEAU MEETS WITH SALIH, DEPARTS 20 NOV

JN201345 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau at his office at 1100 today. Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau is currently on a visit to the YAR.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations, means of developing them and aspects of economic cooperation [word indistinct] in serving the two countries' interests. The meeting was attended by YAR vice president Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, Economy and Industry Minister Muhammad Hizam ash-Shawhati and the Canadian ambassador in San'a'.

YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani also received Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and his delegation today. They discussed bilateral relations and means of developing them, along with a number of issues related to the Arab and international arenas, particularly the North-South dialogue. The meeting was attended by the minister of economy and industry, [word indistinct] and the director of [word indistinct] office.

This afternoon, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau left San'a' at the end of a 2-day visit to the YAR. He held talks with YAR officials on means of developing bilateral relations and cooperation, peace issues and the issue of the North-South dialogue.

In a statement to the SABA NEWS AGENCY, Mr Trudeau said his talks with YAR officials were beneficial and successful. He added that views were identical on a number of current international issues.

The Canadian prime minister was seen off by YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, minister of economy and development, and by a number of senior officials and diplomatic corp representatives.

PLO'S YASIR 'ARAFAT VISITS GENERAL COMMAND

Arrival 20 Nov

JN201406 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived in San'a' this afternoon. He will hold talks with YAR officials on the Arab situation in light of current developments.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, 'Arafat said that he and YAR president Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will discuss the present Arab situation, the problems the Arab nation is facing in these difficult circumstances, the conspiracies hatched against it under the Camp David agreements and the imperialist and Zionist practices, which include escalated Israeli military actions in southern Lebanon and against the Palestinian people inside the occupied lands.

He added that he and the president will discuss the critical situation on the Iraqi-Iranian borders and the PLO's efforts, exerted through the nonaligned coordination office, to stop the shedding of Islamic blood.

He was received at the airport by YAR vice president Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, a number of Consultative Council members and ministers, high-ranking officials and members of the Arab diplomatic corps accredited in the YAR.

President's Reception

LD202352 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Summary] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received this afternoon PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in his office at the general command.

"Discussions took place during the meeting on the current Arab conditions, appropriate ways for clearing the Arab air, provision of the necessary guarantees for the success of the 11th Arab summit conference and the emergence of positive resolutions that will serve the basic interests of our Arab nation, headed by the Palestinian issue and the issue of Arab solidarity, and the creation of a unified strategy for Arab action in the Arab and international arenas."

Appeal to King Husayn

LD202354 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A responsible source in the Palestinian delegation accompanying Mr Yasir 'Arafat, currently visiting the YAR, has stated that Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has sent an important and urgent message to King Husayn of Jordan concerning the current Arab conditions. The source added that the message also dealt with the outcome of the meetings of the seven-member Arab committee which were held in Amman in the last 2 days, in addition to the Arab efforts to reach a unified position on confronting the dangers surrounding the region, Mr Yasir 'Arafat appealed to King Husayn to exert his influence toward reaching a unified Arab position.

COMMENTARY WARNS OF LIBYAN PLOT AGAINST AFRICA

NC201442 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "The Libyan Plot Against Chad Complements the Foreign Expansionist Plans in Africa"]

[Excerpts] Chad is now the target of a wide-scale conspirational plan, parts of which have been implemented by Libyan Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, whose forces have occupied parts of northern Chad, where they have started searching for oil and uranium.

It is clear that Al-Qadhdhafi is playing a main role in Africa on behalf of foreign interests. It is also clear that the Libyan role does not stop at achieving territorial ambitions in Chad, but also includes more far-reaching aims that are a link in the chain of plotting against the fate of the African continent.

For a long time Egypt has warned against Al-Qadhdhafi's policy, which aims at creating disturbances in neighboring African countries, particularly Chad, Niger and the Central African Republic. Egypt again warns today against this policy which aims at opening the door for foreign infiltration in Central and West Africa. Egypt calls on the world community to be alert toward this policy and to adopt a firm stand toward it, as well as toward the expansionist plans which are exploiting this policy in order to achieve their aims.

AL-AHRAM SAYS LIBYANS IN CHAD BY SOVIET DESIGN

LD201639 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 Nov 80 p 7

[Editorial: "Egypt And the Problem of Chad"]

[Text] Egypt's agreeing to attend the extraordinary meeting of the OAU Ministerial Council to discuss Libyan aggression against Chad is consistent with the political line which Egypt is pursuing and which it has declared on more than one occasion, particularly before the OAU conferences. This line is based on noninterference in the affairs of other countries and respecting their sovereignty as well as on the need to solve African problems by the Africans themselves and not to allow foreign interference in the affairs of the continent.

Since Libyan interference in Chad is rejected on the grounds that it constitutes an aggression against an African state and an interference in its affairs, the Libyan action is equally rejected because it is part of a plan to create an opportunity for foreign interference in the continent's affairs.

The Libyan aggression reflects Al-Qadhdhafi's ambitions in Chad and, therefore, it is linked to the Soviet plans that seek to expand Soviet influence and presence in the continent by spreading instability there.

To describe Libya as a Soviet tool in Africa is not an allegation against Libya because it is no secret that during the 1977-1978 fighting in the Horn of Africa Libya was the depot from which Soviet weapons stored there were shipped to Ethiopia in order to be used against Somalia and Eritrea.

Moreover, if the OAU Ministerial Council meeting aims to discuss the Libyan aggression against Chad this is also a stand against all forms of foreign designs in the area and against the plans to spread instability in it.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 20-21 NOV

Communique No 151

JN201842 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Communique No 151 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 20 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With pride and zeal, our armed forces are implementing the will of the nation and people by wresting our legitimate rights from the claws of the racist Persian aggressors. Our armed forces continued to strike at the Persian Magian forces in all of their operational sectors, destroying the remnants charlatan Khomeyni's regime has collected and presented as bait for death and destruction.

The outcome of our armed forces' activities this afternoon was as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. This afternoon our helicopters raided enemy military targets in the northern and southern sectors in Susangerd, inflicting the following losses on him:

1. In personnel: 40 killed. Enemy concentrations also sustained losses.
2. In equipment: Nine tanks, three armored personnel carriers, one vehicle loaded with supplies, an observation post and several emplacements of mortars and antiaircraft guns were destroyed. All of our helicopters returned safely to their bases.

B. Enemy losses as a result of our ground forces' activities:

1. In personnel: Five killed.
2. In equipment: One enemy helicopter was shot down in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

C. Our losses:

1. In personnel: One martyr.
2. In equipment: One mortar.

II. The air forces:

This afternoon our aircraft launched three raids on the enemy units and concentrations in the Gilan sector, inflicting grave losses on his tanks, vehicles and personnel. Our aircraft returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 November 1980

Communique No 152

JN211115 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1045 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Communique No 152 issed by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 21 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The battlefronts testify to the heroism and spirit of sacrifice of our brave soldiers, the guardians of the eastern gate, who continue to deal punishing blows to the Magian grandsons of Khosrow and to dissipate the dreams of the ignorant clique in Tehran and its satan, charlatan Khomeyni, of undermining the dignity of the people and nation and the homeland's independence.

The outcome of our armed forces' activities in the operational sectors last night and this morning is as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 45 killed and a large number wounded.
2. In equipment: Nine tanks, four vehicles, one gun, one armored vehicle and one tube launcher were destroyed.
3. Our helicopters raided enemy military targets in the Gilan sector today and destroyed four tanks which were withdrawing deep into Iranian territory.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 16 martyrs.
2. In equipment: Three personnel carriers and six vehicles.

II. The air forces:

A. Enemy planes raided civilian targets and residential areas today. They were intercepted by our ground resistance, which forced them to flee, as follows:

1. At 0725 enemy planes raided residential areas in Choman, Irbil Governorate.
2. At 0730 and 1030 enemy planes raided Diyana village, Irbil Governorate.
3. At 1000 enemy planes raided Rawanduz and Mirghah Sur villages, Irbil Governorate.
4. At 1015 enemy planes raided civilian targets in Dukan, As-Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

B. Our losses in the enemy raids:

1. In personnel: One martyred and 9 wounded, including 3 women and 2 children in Choman, 1 wounded in Mirghah Sur and 12 wounded in Diyana. [all figures as heard] All are civilians.
2. Several houses were damaged.

C. This morning, our planes raided enemy artillery emplacements in the Gilan sector, destroying several emplacements in direct hits and destroying the vehicle gathering points nearby.

All our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 November 1980

BAGHDAD RADIO ANNOUNCES COMMENCEMENT OF AZERI PROGRAMS

NC201700 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 1600 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention, please pay attention. Starting tonight, we will broadcast a 1-hour program in Azeri. The Azeri program of Baghdad radio will be broadcast from 2230 to 2330 Tehran time [1900-2000 GMT] on SW 41 and 92 meters.

ARABISTAN YOUTH CARRY OUT OPERATIONS AGAINST IRAN

JN201837 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Groups of Arabistan youth have carried out operations against the racist Persian enemy. These heroic operations reflect their fateful solidarity with Saddam's soldiers in the battle of right, honor and dignity. They stress the faith and attachment of these youth to their future. The following are the most important of the operations:

1. On 16 November, groups of Arabistan youth attacked a concentration of Khomeyni guards in the (Fa'ayah) region, opposite the (Suydi Nam Nushih) region. The youth used mortars and RPG-7's in this operation. They killed four racists and wounded others.

2. The so-called Khomeyni guards tried to infiltrate the Hoveyzeh region in the direction of the Iraqi units situated in the liberated area, but the alertness of the Arabistan youth defeated the attempt, following a clash in which two racists were killed and the others fled.

3. The youth confronted some racist enemy units that were trying to enter the outskirts of Al-Khafajiyeh [Susangerd]. The commander of the enemy unit and 15 of his men were killed. The youth captured the commander's jeep and his guards' vehicle, which was loaded with weapons. The group returned safely to base.

4. The youth aided the valiant Iraqi forces in mopping-up operations when the forces marched to the regions of Jalaliyeh, (Abu Mar'i), and (Umm Humaydah), to purge them of pockets of Khomeyni guards and of Khomeyni's forces situated there between 13 and 17 November. One of the youth, 'Abd Mahmud as-Sayyid, was martyred during the march toward Al-Khafajiyeh. Three other youths were wounded. They were carried by their comrades to safe bases.

These heroic operations stress the Arabistan sons' Arab belonging, their attachment to their nationality and the originality of their stand in confronting the racist Persian enemy, who practices oppression and injustice against the sons of Arabistan.

IRAN'S CHAMRAN SAID WOUNDED IN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

JN201925 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] London, 20 Nov (INA)--Press reports here today mentioned that former Iranian Defense Minister Mostafa Chamran was the target of an assassination attempt in an area near Abadan.

The newspaper AL-'ARAB reported that armed Khomeyni guards attacked Chamran and wounded him. Chamran was rushed to the hospital. During the attack, three persons who were guarding the area were also killed.

The paper added that the assassination attempt was part of the struggle in Iran between the religious trend and the civilian trend, represented by President Bani-Sadr. This struggle has intensified in the wake of the arrest of Sadeq Qotbzadeh, former Iranian minister of foreign affairs.

The paper said that it is believed that the assassination attempt was not directed against Mostafa Chamran alone but was part of a scheme engineered by the Islamic republicans to assassinate President Bani-Sadr, who usually accompanies Chamran in his rounds in this area.

The Iranian authorities mentioned that Chamran was wounded during the battles that took place in Al-Khafajiyeh.

INTERIOR MINISTRY DENIES MISTREATING SYRIAN VISITORS

JN192129 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] A spokesman for the Interior Ministry has stated the following: An official Syrian source was quoted as saying today that the Jordanian authorities have recently mistreated Syrians going to Jordan. He said that Syrians were insulted and that many of them were prevented from entering Jordan. In order to point out the facts and to prevent any misunderstanding, the Jordanian Interior Ministry would like to emphasize the following:

First, the Jordanian border authorities have never insulted any visitor to Jordan, because this is not in keeping with its character. Syrian brothers who have visited the kingdom know this fact.

Second, for the past week, the responsible Jordanian authorities have taken precautionary measures to insure maximum security and safety for delegations attending the Arab summit conference, which will be held in Amman on 25 November. This is the custom everywhere in the world and it is made necessary by the responsibility of hosting such high-level conference.

Third, these measures are applied to all people visiting Jordan at this time, whether they are Arabs or foreigners, and at all ports of entry in the kingdom.

Fourth, the Jordanian Interior Ministry would like to point out that only persons with incomplete or invalid documents are banned entry.

KING HUSAYN ADDRESSES ARAB MILITARY GRADUATES

JN201359 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1218 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Address by King Husayn at the graduation ceremeny of the 21st staff and command course of the Royal Command Staff College on 20 November--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother officers, esteemed gentlemen, greetings of confidence, love and pride to you. I would like to offer my most sincere congratulations and best wishes to the brother graduates who have successfully completed the staff and command course at this college.

Past experiences and challenges, replete in our history, have taught us that if defeat afflicts a nation it is the result of weakness, fragmentation and loss of self-confidence. It is now high time for the nation to stop adopting escapist stands. It is high time for this nation to rally its individuals, groups, institutions and sectors to form a strong and unified internal front, in order to shoulder its responsibilities and support its armed forces in their battles for right, existence and future.

Having lived among us, you, brother graduates, know well that in adopting our clear and candid stands, we have always proceeded from the premises of our deep-rooted belief in and commitment to our Arab responsibilities. In fact, our stand on any pan-Arab event does not depend on considerations of loss and gain. Rather, we are governed by such dictates as the pan-Arab fate and a comprehensive Arab perspective. Indeed, we put such dictates above any other considerations. This is why we refused to take a stance of silence and hesitation. This is why we refused to internationalize our issue or to deprive our nation of its role. We have always held that the nation must be allowed to shoulder its own responsibility for its fate, since it is the nation, which is concerned about defending its rights, territory and dignity, that has the right to decide.

Pure Arabism is far removed from fanaticism, ignorance and haughtiness. God wished the Arab nation to be the cradle of Islam, inspiration and of the message. Thus, if the Arabs achieved glory, they would be the strong and glorious upholders of the message. However, if the Arabs were to be afflicted with any calamity--may God forbid--then ambitious people would covet the territory of Islam and Arabism and ensnare the Arabs through treachery.

We are very much concerned about the fraternity of pure and true Islam, since such a fraternity would allow every Muslim to live free of discrimination and of encroachment on his rights.

It is these criteria that have always dictated our stand. In fact it was our concern with these criteria that governed our cohesion and the sacrifices we offered for Palestine throughout the period of the Zionist-Arab conflict.

It is also upon these criteria that we based our clear stand in support for Iraq, and for every Arab state, in the face of any threat or aggression against their rights.

Esteemed brothers, I am filled with confidence and faith as I greet the graduates from the sons of the fraternal Arab armies who have participated in this course: the sons of the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, the YAR and the Palestinian Liberation Army.

ARMY REPORTEDLY IGNORES AL-WAZZAN EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

NC201308 Doha QNA in Arabic 1202 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Beirut, 20 Nov (QNA)--The Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR today reports that the color television station of the Lebanese Phalangist Party yesterday carried out a 50-minute transmission test.

The paper says that this test was made because Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan had requested the army command several times to send to the Defense Ministry some equipment used in jamming the television transmission of the Phalangist station, so as to use the equipment in preventing this television transmission. However, the army command has not responded to this request, which the prime minister repeated four times.

It is worth noting that the Lebanese authorities had earlier decided to use technical methods to prevent the Phalangist television station from beginning to transmit its programs. The reason is that such programs are considered as illegal and unlicensed information media.

NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY'S SHAM'UN REQUESTS BEIRUT ASYLUM

NC201150 Doha QNA in Arabic 0931 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Doha, 20 Nov (QNA)--Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Movement, Fatah, has said that Dany Sham'un, commander of the military wing of the Lebanese National Liberal Party, has asked for permanent asylum in the western sector of Beirut.

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH, Khalaf said that Dany Sham'un has discussed this matter in detail with Khalaf personally, and that a decision on the granting of asylum will be made immediately upon Khalaf's return to Lebanon from his tour. He said that the Lebanese patriotic movement has pledged to ensure protection against possible dangers that might be posed by the Lebanese isolationists.

Meanwhile, Khalaf emphasized that the relations of the Palestine Liberation Organization with both Iraq and Iran are still close. The reason is that these relations are governed by strategic basics, regardless of the fact that the PLO has been reproached by both countries for having remained neutral and for having refrained from granting absolute support to any particular side.

AL-WAZZAN, BUTRUS MEET WITH GDR DELEGATION 20 NOV

NC201411 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Excerpts] At 1230 today Prime Minister al-Wazzan received the GDR delegation which is currently visiting Lebanon under Gerhard Grueneberg, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Politburo and SED Central Committee secretary. Prime Minister al-Wazzan reviewed for the delegation the general conditions in Lebanon in the light of the current developments in the area.

After the meeting, the delegation chief said: I want to confirm that the joint talks we had were important and were characterized by mutual understanding regarding internal and external questions. Our points of view were identical on international questions and the Lebanese problem.

Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Fu'ad Butrus received the SED Central Committee delegation under Gerhard Grueneberg, SED Politburo member and SED Central Committee secretary. The GDR ambassador to Lebanon also attended the meeting. The discussions at the meeting touched upon the political situation in the area and the world, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Lebanese crisis.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 20 NOV

JN201631 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, Algerian foreign minister, arrived in Damascus from Amman today after having participated in the meetings of the Arab seven-member committee, which convened there during the past 2 days.

The Algerian foreign minister was welcomed at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT, LEAVES

JN171956 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus--His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, left Damascus this evening at the end of a short visit to Syria during which he delivered a message to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Khalid.

The Saudi prince was seen off at Damascus international airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, the Saudi ambassador in Damascus and senior Foreign Ministry officials.

In a statement to SANA, the Saudi foreign minister said: My visit to Syria was for the purpose of delivering a message to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Khalid ibn al-'Aziz dealing with joint Arab action and the need to strengthen the required Arab solidarity at this stage in the history of our nation.

The Saudi foreign minister added: I reviewed with President Hafiz al-Asad the Arab situation and the means to strengthen the unity of Arab ranks to serve our common cause.

INTERVIEW IMPLICATES JORDAN IN AIDING BROTHERHOOD

JN202250 [Editorial Report] Damascus Domestic Service in 1915 GMT on 20 November carries a 50-minute interview with Muhammad Ziyad Silkah, identified as a former Jordanian Information Ministry official and manager for Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

Silkah begins by reviewing how he left Syria for Iraq in 1964 and then went to Jordan, where he held various posts in the Jordanian Government before devoting himself to private business, a flower shop. Silkah says he knew Mudar Badran from the days when they studied together at one of the Syrian universities and claims that they were close. He recalls how Mudar Badran once asked him to accompany him to a camp near Ajlun in Jordan, where more than 30 persons aged between 18 and 25 were being trained. On their return from the camp, Mudar Badran told him "that those being trained in the camp were Muslim Brotherhood members from Syria. He told me they were Syrians. I was astonished that Syria would send them to be trained here. Mudar Badran told me: No, they were not sent by the Syrian Government, they are from the Muslim Brotherhood organization. Mudar Badran then gave justifications for this action. For him, as a Jordanian citizen, and for the Jordanian Government, these justifications were convincing, but to me as a Syrian they were not." Silkah does not elaborate on the justifications. He continues by saying that Mudar Badran then asked him to work with the group, but that he declined. When he asked Badran about the purpose of the training, he notes he was told that "the purpose is to change the regime in Syria."

Silkah then discussed how he became acquainted with a Muslim Brotherhood member named 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Bakri, who told him that the "Iraqi regime provides them with money and arms to carry out sabotage acts and that the Iraqi regime wishes these acts to be carried out in the name of the Muslim Brotherhood organization, because it enjoys some sympathy." He also says that Al-Bakri told him that among those working with them is Shaykh Zayd al-Kilani, a Jordanian citizen, brother of Muhammad Rasul al-Kilani, director of the Jordanian intelligence service, and the dean of the Shari' a school at the University of Jordan. He notes that Al-Bakri informed him that there were other Muslim Brotherhood groups being trained in Jordan, near As-Salt and elsewhere.

Silkah then says: "After seeing that the Muslim Brotherhood organization had activities here, that 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Bakri was active here, that Mudar Badran was also working, I began remembering things. Having worked at the royal court, I know that King Husayn welcomes only kings and presidents at the airport. The same applies to Crown Prince Hasan. Now, 'Isam al'Attar (Muslim Brotherhood leader) was a deputy at one time in Syria. He is neither a president, a prime minister nor even a minister. Yet when he comes on a visit from Aachen in Germany, the crown prince goes out to the airport to welcome him. They send him flowers in the name of Prince Hasan and Prince Tharwat. This means that there are close links between the command of the Muslim Brotherhoood organization and the big leaders, that is, the king and Prince Hasan."

Silkah concludes by saying that having observed all of this, he made his deductions and decided to inform the Syrian authorities.

BRIEFS

BA'TH BATTALION--The Third Armed Ba'thist Battalion was graduated in Dar'a today in the presence of the comrade secretary of the Dar'a Ba'th Party branch, the Dar'a governor and the comrade members of the party branch command. [Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Nov 80 JN]

ALGERIA

IRAN'S RAFSANJANI ENDS VISIT TO ALGIERS 20 NOV

LD201320 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Summary] Speaker of the Iranian Consultative Assembly Hashemi Rafsanjani left Algiers today at the end of his 3-day visit during which he had talks with Speaker of the Algerian People's Assembly Bitat and other Algerian officials. He was seen off at the airport by Bitat and others.

REPORTAGE ON RAFSANJANI'S 19 NOV PRESS CONFERENCE

For reportage on Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani's press conference in Algiers on 19 November and Tehran reportage on Rafsanjani's visit, see the Iran section of the 20 November South Asia DAILY REPORT.

MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 20 NOV

LD201404 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Summary] Mauritanian Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Mohamed El Moktar Ould Zamel arrived in Algiers this morning for a visit.

LIBYA

IRAN'S RAFSANJANI ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI 20 NOV

LD201806 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Consultative Assembly, and a delegation accompanying him, arrived this evening at Tripoli international airport on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed by the secretary of the General People's Congress, secretary for the affairs of the people's congresses and the Libyan ambassador to Iran.

Airport Statement

LD202100 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] The speaker of the Iranian Islamic Consultative Assembly praised the attitude of the great 1 September revolution to the Iranian Islamic revolution. He said: This attitude has always been positive, constructive and useful, and we have met on the part of our brothers in the Jamahiriyah with all support for and comprehensive solidarity with our Islamic revolution.

In a statement to JANA at Tripoli international airport the speaker of the Consultative Assembly expressed his satisfaction and that of the delegation accompanying him at visiting the Jamahiriyah. He said: Today, we feel at home and among our kinfolk. He expressed confidence that his visit and that of the delegation accompanying him to the Jamahiriyah will have good results for the consolidation of the strong relations between the two Islamic revolutions in various fields, and support for the unity of the ranks of the Islamic progressive forces everywhere, and the elimination of the colonialist-Christian-Zionist-reactionary alliance in the region.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR AMMAN ARAB SUMMIT

AB191742 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel, left Nouakchott last night for Amman, where he will represent the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, head of state and government, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, at the 11th summit of Arab countries.

During the summit, scheduled to take place on 25 November in Amman, the Arab leaders will examine issues submitted to them by the ministerial preparatory commission which began its deliberations yesterday in the Jordanian capital. Among other things they will devise a common strategy vis-a-vis Israel.

HAYDALA APPEALS TO GUINEA-BISSAU ON BEHALF OF CABRAL

AB210940 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] The Permanent Committee of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] met in ordinary session on Thursday, 20 November 1980, under the chairmanship of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state and government. After reviewing the national and international situation, the Permanent Committee voted the necessary measures to ensure the implementation of new trade unions in a democratic way.

Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state and government, sent the following message to His Excellency Major Joao Bernardo Vieira, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Guinea-Bissau: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your message dated 18 November 1980, from which I note with satisfaction your loyalty to Amilcar Carbral's ideals, to the charters of the United Nations, the OAU and ECOWAS. I am particularly fond of your country, which I visited on the eve of the change that occurred there. I am counting on you to spare the lives of all former leaders and to grant Luis Cabral the benefit of honorable treatment. Highest regards.

HAYDALA CONGRATULATES REAGAN ON ELECTION VICTORY

LD062344 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 6 Nov 80

[Text] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chief of state and of the government, has sent a congratulations cable to the new U.S. president, Ronald Reagan, which says:

On the occasion of your election as head of the supreme presidential council of your country it gives me great pleasure to extend to you in the name of the Mauritanian people, the Military Committee for National Salvation and the government our warmest congratulations with the most solemn assurances of esteem.

[Signed] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA LEAVES FOR AMMAN FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL

LD201340 Rabat MAP in English 1231 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Casablanca, 20 Nov (MAP)--Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left here Wednesday heading for Amman, where he will take part in the meeting of the Arab Foreign Ministers Council, due to open its works this Thursday.

Before leaving Mr Boucetta told newsmen that the meeting will prepare the agenda of the Arab summit that will be held in Amman next week, and will try to elaborate a common Arab strategy able to overcome inter-Arab differences.

The minister also outlined that Morocco will spare no effort for ensuring the success of this session, especially as the Arab cause and mainly the Palestinian issue require that inter-Arab differences be overcome.

On the other hand sources close to the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported Wednesday that eighteen Arab countries as well as the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) had announced their participation in the Arab foreign affairs ministers meeting.

The same sources precised that the agenda of the ministerial meeting includes two main items: examining a document related to Arab economic strategy as it was elaborated by the nine member ministerial commission during its meeting held in Tunis last September, and examining the broad lines of an Arab political strategy.

BOUCETTA INTERVIEWED ON SAHARA PROBLEM, GULF

LD201315 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 5 Nov 80 p 6

[Text] Rabat, 8 November, MAP--In connection with the work of the Moroccan-French mixed commission meeting in Paris, Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, granted Radio France Internationale an interview which was broadcast during its Monday "Carrefour" program.

During this interview Boucetta discussed the work done by the Moroccan-French grand commission for cooperation, the problem of the tension prevailing in northwest Africa, the presence of the Saharan people's representatives in Freetown, relations between Morocco and the OAU, Moroccan-Algerian relations, Moroccan conditions for a resumption of dialogue between the two countries and his country's domestic political situation during the democratization process.

Here is the complete text of this interview:

Question: First of all, Minister, I would like to thank you for coming to our studios today. I would like to discuss with you some problems about which international opinion feels concerned at present but, if you do not mind, I would like to ask you first about relations between Morocco and France.

Answer: As you have just suggested, the time has come to assess our bilateral relations in all spheres.

As you know, there are now several sectorial commissions dealing with problems concerning specific sectors of the intergovernmental grand commission. Their aim is to assess the situation on an annual basis and discover the state of these relations and the points which should be somewhat diversified and rendered more dynamic with a view to advancing matters under discussion.

This year's meeting of the commission is a follow-up to the meeting held in Rabat last year with the participation of a French delegation led by Mr Jean Francois-Poncet. We have kept our main promise that we would ensure that the commission met periodically, at least once a year.

This is why I am here.

The problem of cultural and technical cooperation is among the major problems with which we have been faced this time.

As you know, there are some teachers who help Morocco in the educational and cultural sector and this has created some problems connected with their stay in Morocco and with the work which they are supposed to do.

There are also some Moroccan students in France and this has also created some problems connected with their matriculation, studies and so forth.

In this sphere work by the sectorial commission has been effective and the results achieved have been positive. We have realized this and we have decided what points should be discussed during the coming year and I must say that as far as this sphere is concerned we should feel pleased with the existing relations. I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to express our great appreciation of the efforts made by French overseas workers in this sphere, tell them that we are pleased with the role which they play and thank them.

There are also some other problems, in other spheres, in connection, for instance, with trade relations. Furthermore, Morocco will make some readjustments and even some quite important changes in the investment rules for the coming year. This is to be done in the coming weeks whereas a Moroccan 5-year plan for 1980-1984 will be established in the coming months. This is why the appeal which we are launching with French investors in mind, with a view to implementing certain projects mentioned in our plan, is a matter of extreme urgency as we stated during a meeting of the commission.

These were the two main points but some others have also been discussed, including cooperation with respect to oil prospecting and extraction, cooperation in the agricultural sphere and cooperation in various other spheres because Franco-Moroccan cooperation extends to many spheres and is very diversified. However, the two main spheres are those which I have just mentioned.

Obviously, we have also had an opportunity to discuss some international problems with which we are faced and which it is always useful to study jointly. In fact, an exchange of views took place between Mr Jean Francois-Poncet and myself at this level with respect to present-day international problems.

Question: Quite so, Minister. Let us, therefore, begin with an example of present-day international problems, namely, that of Western Sahara. Was this problem discussed during your talks with French leaders and if so, do you believe that France could in any way act as mediator in any settlement of the Western Sahara conflict or help to resolve it?

Answer: The problem of Sahara was mentioned because, first of all, we wanted to inform our friends about the development of the situation. In fact, changes have occurred this year in two spheres: In the military sphere, that is, the field, it has been confirmed that Morocco is in complete control. We have always seen this problem as a problem concerning our territorial integrity which we had to protect by taking all necessary measures. There have also been some developments in the diplomatic sphere and it was a matter of importance to make this known in France, especially with respect to what has been decided in the African framework. As you know, a summit meeting took place in Freetown in July 1980. During this meeting this problem was viewed a little more realistically than before since the resolution which was adopted was mainly aimed at reconciling the parties and creating a proper atmosphere for a dialogue and talks and for seeking a solution to the problem of the tension existing in the region. This resolution enjoined a committee--an ad hoc committee also called the "committee of wise men"--to make the necessary recommendation with this end in mind after listening to the parties involved.

This has been done and Morocco in fact participated in a meeting held in Freetown in September--from 9 through 12 September, to be precise.

These recommendations concern two points--first the question of a cease-fire and, second, what is called a referendum or opinion poll among the population. We have also informed our friends here that, as we have already told other African countries, in our view the question of a cease-fire does not arise since it was not we who opened fire first. Therefore, if we were not fired at by the aggressors, we would not have to fire back. Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that we will not attack anyone but that we will have to respond to any act of aggression directed against us.

And as far as the second issue is concerned--and, in my opinion, it is more important and difficult than the first--it is a question of ascertaining whether the population should be allowed to express its wishes and if so, how. What was a new development was that both in Freetown and during a recent meeting of the UN fourth commission representatives of the inhabitants of these provinces--these Saharan territories--expressed their views by stating that they had already determined their own future political status.

Therefore, this is the stance which Morocco has adopted: We say that, in view of the dynamics created by the recommendations, Morocco's desire to cooperate with the committee of wise men and its desire and determination to keep the problem within an African framework in order to either reduce or eliminate the existing tension, we are willing to continue to seek within this framework--in conjunction with the African committee--ways and means likely to eliminate this tension and we also say that Morocco is prepared to allow Africa and the OAU to verify and authenticate, with the help of anyone they want to help them, the expression of the Saharan people's will.

Question: Does this mean, Minister, that Morocco is prepared to withdraw its troops from Western Sahara for as long as the OAU would need to organize such an opinion poll among the population?

Answer: The problem of troops does not arise. It has never arisen since it has been stated in the recommendation itself, of which notice is now being given in a more correct manner, that at the time when such an opinion poll takes place, troops should be confined to their barracks. Therefore, the problem of troops has never arisen and will never arise.

Question: Minister, you have just mentioned some movements representing the Saharan people which were present in Freetown during the meeting of the ad hoc committee and which were listened to by this OAU ad hoc committee. It would seem, therefore, that, after all, Morocco has adopted a rather discriminatory attitude toward the "Polisario Front."

Answer: What was actually discriminatory was what occurred before, when the "Polisario" claimed to be the sole and only legitimate representative of the Saharan people, whereas we know--and our knowledge is based on objective and positive facts--that, in reality, it represents only a very small proportion of the Saharan people.

I recalled, in this connection, that when, 1 year earlier,Spain, which was the administering power, was asked--in 1975--to withdraw from the territory, it submitted--and this has been recorded at the UN general secretariat--the results of a census showing that there were some 73,000--73,365 to be exact--people living in the territory.

I can confirm that at least 95 percent of these people remained in the territory--at home and in their villages--in Sahara itself, in the Saharan territory, and that only a negligible number left the country and settled in the so-called Tindouf camps.

Well, this Saharan minority has been joined--because the cause required this--by many people from the region, some of them driven out of their homes by drought, others because they were called to perform a task. I do not want to go into any details concerning either subversion of destablization but, after all, everybody knows that their number has been inflated as a result of the arrival of people from Mali, Niger and South Algeria and also Touaregs and Mauritanians, who have nothing in common with the Saharan people. The remaining 95 percent have stayed in the territory and if anyone should exercise their right to self-determination it is those people, and the organizations which were heard both in Freetown and, recently, by the fourth commission have long been the real representatives of the Saharan people. [paragraph continues]

It was those people who took up arms against Spanish occupation and were there long before independence was achieved and long before the territories were liberated, since 1956 or 1957, before the well-known Ecouvillon operation took place.

After the Madrid accord had been signed, it was they who were empowered to express the population's desires through their local assembly called Jmaa. It was they who were recently elected by their own fellow citizens to either Moroccan institutions or, at a local level, municipal and communal councils, assemblies of professional bodies like agricultural chambers and chambers of commerce or, at a national level, parliament. Seven of them are now members of parliament, while some others have been engaged in social work. All of them continue to work within the framework of these institutions.

Question: Minister, the least that could be said is that relations between Morocco and the OAU have been relatively tense, not to say more, despite the fact that Morocco has relied on the OAU to resolve the problem of Western Sahara.

Answer: To be sure, I said this at the beginning and I repeat it now that we had with the OAU a relationship, which you have rightly called tense, because we reached the conclusion that, the Morovia conference--to which recommendations were to be submitted in order that they could be considered at an extraordinary summit--was completely vitiated by maneuvers which were responsible for the fact that neither lucidity nor serenity nor the usual number of due procedures were sufficiently respected to make it possible to discuss something which is a serious and grave problem. We stated that--and this was, in any case, directly observed by many delegations--what had been done was incorrect and that we were unable to accept these recommendations. In any case, many delegations left at the same time as we did and this is why relations with African were tense.

Many of our African friends--including some most important African countries--and some of our European and Arab friends called upon us to rejoin the African framework since it is from this position that the problem should be considered and discussed. We have responded to this appeal and we have rejoined the African framework and this is why we participated in the Freetown conference which I have just mentioned and which adopted a resolution which we saw as a wise resolution. This resolution led to recommendations which, we believed, could serve as a basis for seeking a solution and this is why we put our trust in the OAU. We can continue to progress along this path with a view to finding a solution to the problem of the existing tension.

Question: Having said this, you know that a certain number of African countries have supported the "Polisario Front" and that 25 countries have recognized the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR]. Do you think that the coming summit of the organization which is to be held in Nairobi in July may well prove stormy?

Answer: It depends. If anyone wanted to make it stormy, it would always be easy to make it stormy, but I do not want to subject the 23 or 26 countries which have recognized the SDAR to any analysis. I would merely like to say that many untrue statements have been made. I must say that, unfortunately, there are countries which oppose Morocco as a matter of principle, for ideological or some other reasons best known to themselves.

I do say unfortunately because, in fact, if everybody had been well-informed and had been willing to understand this problem we would not be in the situation in which we have found ourselves. Therefore, it is our duty to explain and rectify the mistakes which have been made and to explain the reality of this problem. I feel sure that many of the states which have recognized the SDAR as something that really exists have done so on the basis of false premises and that they would reverse their decision if only they were well informed.

I will give only one example of this here: A leader of one of the countries which have recognized the SDAR came to see me and said: "We were told that the Polisario or the SDAR occupies four-fifths of the region, of Saharan territory, and that 90 percent of the people support it." I told him that, after all, you should check such information or also listen to the other side since the exact contrary is true. I confirm once more that Morocco is in control of the entire territory which is an integral part of the Moroccan fatherland and that more than 95 percent of the population go about their work right now within the framework of Moroccan institutions. This means that those countries have adopted their decisions on the basis of false premises. We hope that truth will prevail, that those people will see the light and that, consequently, they will base their decisions on a more natural and real basis.

Question: Minister, I would now like to ask you about Morocco's relations with its Algerian neighbor.

It seems that Rabat is now seeking a kind of detente with Algeria. First of all, have any direct or indirect contacts been established between Morocco and Algeria?

Answer: Morocco has always sought to ensure detente and a spirit of cooperation in a region which is of special interest to it because the main problem with which we are faced is that of our development and of the standard of living of our population. Our two countries could be complementary to each other through joint work and could together face up to the problem of development much more effectively and forcefully. Therefore, I can confirm that we hope for cooperation. The tension which existed and unfortunately continues to exist has been a result of a lack of understanding of the problem of Sahara on the part of certain Algerian leaders. There have always been contacts but never with respect to this problem. Obviously, it cannot be said that there have been no contacts at international conferences or when such events as the Al-Asnam earthquake have taken place. I say, however, that there have been no official of specific contacts with a view to officially discussing the Sharaan problem.

Question: Is Morocco laying down conditions for a resumption of dialogue with Algeria?

Answer: No, Morocco has never laid down any such conditions because it had no condition to impose. Morocco is willing to discuss any problem concerning our countries and our region but it is necessary to ensure that the basis for such discussions are clear. With reference to this question I must say that whenever Morocco has been approached by friendly countries, such as Arab countries--including Saudi Arabia and Tunisia--and some African countries, it has given a positive answer. We are still in favor of such dialogue and we are prepared for it mentally.

It has been alleged that whenever Morocco states that some informal contacts of the kind which I have just mentioned have taken place, this upsets the other side. Well, there have been neither any official nor any specific contacts to discuss this problem. We now hope that such contacts could be established as a result of what we are doing, through African countries and as a result of the recommendations made.

Question: You believe that certain African heads of state or ministers could now act as intermediaries between Algeria and Morocco.

Answer: Yes, the very people who are members of the committee.

Question: Minister, I would now like to discuss another international problem of the present day, namely, the unfortunate conflict which now exists between Iraq and Iran. In this conflict, your country has sided with Iraq. Now King Hassan II is after all chairman of the Islamic Conference Jerusalem Committee. Does he intend to intervene in this capacity with a view to resolving this deadly conflict between Iraq and Iran?

Answer: His majesty the king has already expressed his views on the subject in a very concrete manner as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee by appealing to both Iran and Iraq to end this conflict as soon as possible. Morocco can only deplore a conflict of this kind because, after all, both countries are members of the Islamic Conference. They both are Muslim countries and developing countries which need their resources to ensure their own development and should not use these resources to devastate each other. Therefore, we can only deplore what has been happening.

It is with this end in mind that Morocco and his majesty the king, as Jerusalem Committee chairman, intervened by launching urgent appeals right from the beginning of the hostilities to both the Iranian and the Iraqi leaders. Now about Morocco's position: Generally speaking, we have not supported Iraq just to say that we support Iraq. We believe that good neighborly relations should first of all be based on well-balanced and accepted accords, unlikely to be altered by the passage of time. Iraq has some historical territorial rights in this region. Iraq has agreements with Iran with respect to these territorial problems. Since even these unbalanced agreements were not implemented, the situation was bound to explode and it did. This is what we meant when we said that, first of all, the conflict, the hostilities and the reciprocal destruction, which can only harm both sides, must be stopped and that later a study could be made on a balanced and reasonable basis of what could be negotiated between the two countries with the proviso that Iraq's historical rights be recognized and respected. This is what our support for Iraq has amounted to.

Question: One last question, Minister, which is perhaps more personal, at least it relates to the internal situation in your country, Morocco. You are leader of the Istiqlal Party, one of the main Moroccan political parties which was once in opposition, do you think, then, that the democratization process which has been under way in the country for several years is going well?

Answer: We regard this process primarily as a starting point which Morocco badly needed; the Moroccan people who are strongly attached to their constitutional monarchy regime and are strongly attached to the king himself, needed to express their opinions on some problems, notably economic and social problems and also on important choices, on political problems, both in domestic and international policies. It was with that aim that institutions were set up in 1975 and 1976 to enable representative local bodies and representative bodies at national level to express themselves. We expressed our viewpoint when those institutions were set up, when they were established and we expressed that viewpoint by stating that this move was an important step toward a fully democratic system.

There is no fully democratic system in the world, there is no ideal system which can be attained; we said that this was an important step toward democratic institutions which can be modified, which can be improved but which, compared with the Third World (there are many countries with which we can compare ourselves) constitute a good beginning for us not to mention our pride in seeing our country move toward democracy and people's representation.

Question: Nonetheless, Minister, do you now wish you could still act as a spur at political level as you did when you were in opposition?

Answer: That role has advantages and disadvantages. It is impossible to cut yourself off from government for long, especially in countries like ours; you must keep yourself informed, make a contribution, however modest, to building your country and, in a country like ours, that can be done more effectively in government than outside.

PAPER CONDEMNS AL-QADHDHAFI'S 'SUBVERSIVE ACTS'

LD201336 Rabat MAP in English 1240 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Rabat, 20 Nov (MAP)--The Istiqlal Party's daily L'OPINION (in French) devoted this thursday a commentary to Al-Qadhdhafi's subversive acts in Africa.

Commenting on Ghana's decision to sever relations with Libya because the latter had forced young Ghanaians to follow a military training in Libya in order to undertake a subversive action against their country's authorities, the daily wrote that "the unionist Al-Qadhdhafi does not stop violating the most elementary rules of international law".

"The non-respect of sovereign countries' rights, the ignorance of any notion of brotherhood with all the Arab world as well as expansionism, have become the constants of his (Al-Qadhdhafi's) foreign policy," stated L'OPINION.

"The recent campaign against the Palestinian liberation movement and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to which he refused the Arab character are another [words indistinct] all the Arab nation", added the paper.

The daily further outlined that African citizens are trained in military camps in Libya and are engaged in war in Chad, Uganda, Lebanon, Tunisia, in the Sahara and more recently in Gambia and in Ghana.

The daily also stated that in a desperate attempt to hide his weakness and the fall of the Jamahiriyah, Al-Qadhdhafi interferes in other countries' affairs and creates tensions with his neighbours, with the aim to divide the Arab nation and destroy African solidarity. In conclusion, the paper wrote that one must not keep silent before Al-Qadhdhafi's criminal plot.

PAPER CONFIDENT OF CONTINUED GROWTH OF U.S. TIES

LD201515 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 15 Nov 80 pp 1, 3

[Ahmed Alaoui editorial: "Morocco and the United States"]

[Excerpt] As soon as Morocco regained its independence, it reestablished close and friendly relations with the United States. Cooperation with more diversified, extensive and closer links was established while the two countries drew closer to each other as a result of good mutual understanding. It is an unusual and remarkable fact that no crisis or tension has ever occurred in Moroccan-American relations but, on the contrary, many visits have taken place. For instance, His Majesty King Mohammed V paid an official visit to Washington and His Majesty King Hassan II was a guest of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Carter. On the other hand, President Eisenhower and Mr Richard Nixon, when vice president, visited Morocco.

These relations have been especially cordial because the two countries have usually agreed on major international problems and Morocco has never failed to show its support for America whenever it has been needed, most recently in connection with the Tehran hostages affair.

President Carter made clear his understanding of Morocco's position when Morocco had to engage in fighting to defend its rights and its territorial integrity and he gave it aid despite opposition on the part of some senators and influential personalities.

The new president is bound to act in a similar way. Not only do Morocco and the United States defend the same ideals and values but, in addition, Mr Reagan has clearly stated that he intends to increase support for America's friends and, as we have said, Morocco has been one of America's traditional friends.

It will be possible to express this friendship the more easily since opposition in the Senate has been swept away and men like Senator McGovern were defeated at the recent elections.

There is now a resolute president determined to help America's friends, among whom we count ourselves, and there is a Senate which will create no difficulties for him. Furthermore, among the president's entourage there are men who know Morocco and the essence of the problem well, including Mr Henry Kissinger who has had talks with His Majesty King Hassan II on two occasions and who, furthermore, paid the king warm tribute for his realism and sense of moderation, emphasizing the importance of the role he plays in the Maghreb, Mashriq and African affairs.

So, relations between Morocco and the United States are bound to grow, extend, develop in depth and become stronger. In the conflict which has been forced on us America is bound to show understanding for Morocco's cause because Morocco is defending not only its territorial integrity and its sovereignty but also Africa's freedom and, in the final analysis, the free world's freedom.

BRIEFS

SAUDI AMBASSADOR--Rabat, 18 Nov (MAP)--Mr M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of foreign affairs and ccoperation, received here Monday Shaykh Ali Majd al-Kubbani, Saudi ambassador newly accredited to Rabat. Shaykh 'Ali handed Mr Boucetta a copy of his credentials. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1215 GMT 18 Nov 80 LD]

NEW NEWSPAPER--Rabat 19 Nov (MAP)--The Moroccan press has been reinforced by the publication of a new paper under the name AR-RISALAH [THE MESSAGE]. The publication of the paper, a general Islamic weekly, provisionally to be published twice monthly, is run by Abu-Bakr al-Qaduri, member of the Executive Committee of Istiqlal Party and chairman of the Moroccan Society in Support of Palestinian Struggle. [Text] [Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Nov 80 LD]

WESTERN SAHARA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON UN RECOMMENDATION

LD191500 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Summary] This morning, SDAR Foreign Minister Ibrahim Hakim held a press conference at the Polisario office in Algiers. He spoke about UN recommendation No 2 on the Saharan issue, welcoming the recommendation. He stressed Polisario's desire for peace and coexistence in the region. He pointed out that responding to the Saharan demand for freedom and independence constitutes a realistic base for a peaceful solution. The recommendation is yet another blow to Morocco, and it demonstrates African and Arab support for the Saharan cause. Moroccan withdrawal from occupied Saharan territory is a prerequisite for peace. Kurt Waldheim has been entrusted with implementing the recommendation.

"The Polisario attitude is as follows: The SDAR Government adheres to the implementation of this recommendation and appeals to Morocco to implement, to undertake to implement, the UN appeal. Naturally, we ask the UN secretary general to carry out the task of implementing this recommendation. We say as long as Morocco insists on the presence of its forces in the Sahara, any talk about peace is illusion. Direct negotiations between the two sides--Morocco and the Saharan people under the leadership of Polisario--as was stipulated by the United Nations, are a condition for obtaining peace."

BEGIN WARNS OF COMPLACENCY DUE TO IRAN-IRAQ WAR

TA201833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has warned of complacency in Israel because of the deep divisions in the Muslim world. Begin was speaking tonight before a gathering of the Zionist Federation of America meeting in Jerusalem. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Prime Minister Begin said although peace with Egypt was a great and positive development, Israel must continue to be very careful and watchful. Today the Muslim world is deeply divided. But despite the Iran-Iraq war and the rift between Jordan and Syria, Israel is still facing a big threat from the huge Soviet arsenal of weapons in Libya and an eastern front gushing with more advanced arms. Here, Begin warned, there could be a sudden change in the flow of weapons now moving through Jordan for Iraq in its war with Iran.

[Begin] One day the war between Iraq and Iran will end although it may be a long, protracted war. Then the traffic [of arms] may be in the opposite direction--from Iraq to Jordan.

[Essing] Prime Minister Begin concluded: The warring countries today in the east would then threaten Israel. [end recording]

JERUSALEM ISSUE MAY BE POSTPONED UNTIL LAST STAGE

TA201519 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 80 p 1

[By political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Israel and Egypt may overcome the disagreement between them on the Jerusalem issue by postponing negotiations on this topic until the final stage of the discussions, in 5 years, when the final status of the West Bank has been decided. This view was expressed by political observers yesterday, following the conclusion of the technical level round of autonomy talks between Israel, Egypt and the United States held in Cairo 2 days ago.

The Israeli delegation to the talks included the director general of the Interior Ministry, Hayim Kubersky; the director general of the Ministry of Justice, Me'ir Gabay; the defense minister's adviser on national planning, Maj Gen Avraham Tamir; and the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser, Prof Ruth Lapidot.

During the talks--which had an open agenda--the Egyptians raised the issue of Jerusalem, but no actual discussion was held. The talks were more in the nature of projections and clarifications of stances, taking into account the administration changeover in the United States and the fact that the inclinations of the new administration were unknown. It was made clear, however, that both Egypt and Israel were anxious to continue with the autonomy talks.

It is believed that when Ronald Reagan is sworn in as the U.S. president, special envoy Sol Linowitz and the alternate U.S. chief to the autonomy talks, James Leonard, will be replaced if the talks continue in the same format as now.

EYTAN ON WEST BANK SECURITY, JORDAN RIVER BORDER

TA201539 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 20 Nov 80 p 5

[By Ya'ir 'Amiqam]

[Excerpts] The method adopted by Ari'el Sharon for the liquidation of the terrorists cells in the Gaza Strip in the 1970's is not adequate at present for handling disturbances in the Judaea and Samaria region, both because of the population and because of the topographic conditions and the different character of the area. This was said by Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan to Tel Aviv University students.

The chief of staff added that the way to handle the West Bank is to employ effective intelligence, to search the area and to demonstrate presence and adequate punishment. "The situation in Judaea and Samaria is under full control," he declared.

Replying to a question, the chief of staff said that all the governments have declared that the Jordan River is Israel's eastern security border and that in his opinion the Jordan border is significant for Israel's security opposite the eastern front.

He expounded on this point, adding that the settlements form an inseparable part of that security border. "I think of the settlements as if they were a regular army that is drilling there, even willing to face a conflict if one arises on the eastern front," the chief of staff said. "When the Arabs see strong settlements with fortifications and many weapons--which even include antiaircraft missiles--their attitude is different and they will not be in such a hurry to attack Israel. The Arabs will launch a war when they think the time is appropriate, or when they believe that they can defeat Israel, as they believed in 1973."

Regarding the border with Egypt, the chief of staff said that he did not anticipate any problem from the security viewpoint, as long as the Egyptians maintain the agreements and observe the demilitarization of the territory between Israel and Egypt.

Replying to a question about the prime ministers' functioning in his capacity as defense minister, the chief of staff said: "There were precedents in the past and there are no problems now. As chief of staff, when I need a defense minister I have a defense minister, who makes decisions that are outside my powers. I do not meet the prime minister and defense minister any less than I used to meet a person who only fulfilled the defense minister's post."

21 NOV PRESS WEIGHS NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE, DISTURBANCES

TA210710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] The editorial columnists are hedging all their bets this morning, with little speculative comment in evidence.

HA'ARETZ is still taking soundings from the reverberations of the Knesset debate on no-confidence motions in government economic policy this week. The government may have survived the vote but HA'ARETZ isn't in a forgiving mood. The failure of economic policy, says the paper, is not just a failure for the finance ministers involved: behind them stands Prime Minister Begin, who must carry ultimate responsibility.

DAVAR still prefers the party political implications of Wednesday's vote as the subject for its analysis. The paper feels the vote against the government cast by Moshe Dayan and 'Ezer Weizman sums up the great disillusionment which is generally felt with the government; the more so on the third anniversary of the As-Sadat visit to Jerusalem.

Taking a hard look at the West Bank this week, the English-language Jerusalem POST says that the closure of the universities and the disturbances there fall far short of a tragedy. But, says the POST, it's time that the military commanders of the area learn that firing into the crowd, while proving effective in crowd dispersion, is hardly the tactic best suited to the political front, nor, says the POST, do they realize that, aside from the actual war on terrorism, the West Bank struggle is in fact a political one.

WEIZMAN VOICES POSSIBILITY OF RUNNING AS INDEPENDENT

TA201229 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 20 Nov 80 pp 1, 7

[By Bina Barzel and Arye Tzimuqi]

[Excerpts] Knesset member 'Ezer Weizman told the YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent this morning that yesterday's events in the Knesset "have somewhat tipped the scales" in favor of his running in the next elections in an independent list, rather than in the framework of the Likud. Weizman reiterated his statement that he would not be a candidate in a list headed by Menahem Begin.

"If my friends in the Herut movement should approach me in a friendly manner and tell me that movement officials authorized them to inform me that my place is no longer in the movement, I may decide to quit on my own initiative," 'Ezer Weizman said. "First of all I will acceed to my friends' request and will leave the movement. What happened yesterday does not drastically change the line I have been following up to the present date. I have not retracted my decision that I will not run with a list under Menahem Begin's leadership.

"Since my resignation," Weizman went on, "I had two courses of action to choose from: stay at home for 4 years or run in a separate list. What happened yesterday tipped the scale, to a certain extent, in favor of my being a candidate in a separate list. I am aware that this is not going to be easy.

Among the Likud leaders there is concern about the opposition's future attempts to bring down the government by submitting frequent no-confidence motions. This will oblige the coalition to be in a permanent state of "high alert" and to force ministers and Knesset members to stay in Israel for long periods of time.

SHARON COMMENTS ON IRAQI MILITARY FORCES IN JORDAN

TA201637 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that there are now Iraqi military forces and planes in Jordan. Israel does not agree to an Iraqi presence in Jordan and we have made this clear for many years. Minister Sharon added that Israel was faced with a problem: what to do if Iraq increased its forces. We are confronted with the question of whether an increase in the number of transport planes from Iraq from 20 to 50 would be a reason to go to war. Sharon emphasized that any Iraqi presence in Jordan, even if only a symbolic one, meant a difficult, complicated situation for Israel. The minister of agriculture was speaking in Jerusalem to 800 Jews from the United States.

ECOWAS SPECIAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEETS IN LOME

AB201741 Paris AFP in English 1718 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Lome, Togo, 20 Nov (AFP)--Ministers and armed forces chiefs from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) met here today as the organisation's special defense committee to discuss plans for mutual defense pact for the 16 nation organization.

The meeting stemmed from the organization's fifth summit in May, when heads of state from the member countries stressed the urgent need for a joint collective defense agreement to guarantee the community's institutions.

That summer [passage indistinct] committee composed of eight countries--Cape Verde Islands, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) to work out a draft agreement.

Foreign ministers, defense ministers and armed forces chiefs of staff attended today's meeting. It followed a 3-day ECOWAS council of ministers session that ended here yesterday.

COMMITTEE MEETS ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

AB200726 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1720 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Nov (AZAP)--The Technical Committee of the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, PANA, meets in Dakar from today until 26 November 1980 to take stock of the telecommunications needs of the national news agencies and the equipment necessary for each member state's posts and telecommunications network. The meeting also aims at drawing up a list of the needs of member states in order to allow the setting up in the short term of a PANA telecommunications network and to inventory the existing means of transmission and those to be set up by PANA at its Dakar headquarters and at the headquarters of the regional pools in order to define the links between pool member states, pool headquarters and PANA headquarters and conversely.

The work schedule includes the examination of documents concerning the five pool headquarters: that is, Khartoum for the East African pool; Lusaka for the southern African pool; Kinshasa for the Central African pool; Lagos for the West African pool; Tripoli for the North African pool; and finally the headquarters in Dakar, Senegal.

Participants will also have to examine documents concerning PANA member states: Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Seychelles, Mauritius, Djibouti, Comoro Islands and Madagascar, which form the East African pool, Zambia, Lesotho, Botswana, Malawi, Swaziland and Mozambique, which form the Southern African pool; Zaire, Angola, Rwanda, Burundi, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic, Chad, Sao Tome and Principe and Congo, which form the Central African pool; Nigeria, Gambia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Mali, Upper Volta, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Togo and Benin, which form the West African pool; and Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, which form the North African pool.

The technical committee, which includes Algeria, Cameroon, Guinea, Mauritius, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Zaire, and Zambia, will adopt at the conclusion of its deliberations a report and recommendations that will be submitted to the directors of the national news agencies and to the intergovernmental council which will meet next year.

Also attending the meeting is the International Telecommunications Union represented by Mr Abdelhak Benkirane, special adviser and chief engineer for telecommunications.

ETHIOPIA

ELF ISSUES STATEMENT ON ASSASSINATION OF LEADER

JN191345 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Nov (INA)--The Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF] has stressed that the assassination of struggler 'Uthman Hasan, deputy chairman of the Provisional Revolutionary Committee of the Popular Liberation Forces and head of the Political Department, followed the Ethiopian enemy's failure to militarily and politically liquidate the Eritrean people and their revolution.

In a statement issued by its office here today, the front stressed the grave role played by world imperialism, inspired by the CIA, in aiding Ethiopia and in providing it with its criminal expertise, by which it strives to liquidate the Eritrean trends and elements, particularly the sincere national ones.

It said that the assassination of the Eritrean leader is clear evidence of the grudge felt by the agents and traitors who are plotting against the Eritrean revolution, as well as of their desperate attempts to liquidate the Popular Liberation Forces organization and to end its role in confronting both the plots that are being concocted against our people's hopes and aspirations and all solutions and settlements that are humiliating to our Eritrean masses.

SOMALIA

LIBERATION FRONTS CLAIM VICTORIES OVER ETHIOPIANS

LD191146 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 19 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The gallant Western Somali Liberation Front freedom fighters ambushed a number of Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers at (Bayahow), northwest of Callafo, on 8 November killing 19 enemy soldiers and wounding many others, as well as destroying 5 trucks, 3 of which were blown up by landmines. The freedom fighters returned safely to base.

The Somali Abo freedom fighters were engaged in a clash with the Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers at Arba, in Sidamo region, killing 14 enemy soldiers and wounding many others.

In another clash near the town of Moyale, on 13 November, the Somali Abo freedom fighters killed 10 enemy soldiers and wounded many others, as well as capturing four AK assault rifles.

Further Claims

LD201234 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somalia to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 20 Nov EA

[Text] In a fierce battle between heroic Somali Abo freedom fighters and black Abyssinian forces at (Godina Adow), south of Negelle, on 9 November, the Abyssinians suffered heavy losses, including the destruction of a radar unit and other scanning devices. The freedom fighters also killed two Russian soldiers and a Cuban soldier. The Abo fighters lost two martyrs in the (Godina) battle.

In another encounter between Somali Abo freedom fighters and black Abyssinian colonialist troops at Bogol Manya town on 10 November, 33 enemy soldiers were killed and 2 vehicles burned out. The Abyssinians suffered extensive losses and were taught unforgettable lessons.

PRESIDENT'S WIFE LEADS DELEGATION TO PRC, UAE

LD192038 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 19 Nov 80 EA

[Summary] A large delegation of the Somali Democratic Women's Organization led by the wife of President Siad, Challe Khadija Maalin, left Mogadishu today for a 2-week visit to the PRC. Speaking to reporters before her departure, she said she would also be visiting the United Arab Emirates at the invitation of the wife of the UAE president.

UGANDA

OBOTE APPEALS TO BAGANDA TRIBE TO JOIN UPC

LD192008 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpts] The president of UPC [Uganda People's Congress], Dr Milton Obote, has said that it is very painful to see Ugandans in some parts of the country starving to death in a country where there is plenty of natural resources. Addressing a public rally at Rwamahwa central Mpigi constituency, the UPC leader said the present state of poverty and starvation is a result of Amin's dictatorial rule of 8 years and the previous UNLF [Uganda National Liberation Front] governments.

Dr Obote once again called on Baganda to join UPC and make maximum use of the vast opportunities offered by the UPC party. Dr Obote looked forward to see many MPs from Buganda in parliament, saying it is only through this that the Baganda can play an effective role in the government.

The Democratic Party, he said, made sure Lule did not come back but at the same time they want the supporters of Lule to vote for them. He said the DP leadership made sure that even supporters of Lule who attended their convention did not get positions of responsibility. He also said that UPC cannot compromise on the ballot box issue.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY DECIDES AGAINST ELECTION BOYCOTT

LD191940 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The Central Executive of the Democratic Party [DP] has decided not to boycott the 10 December general elections in spite of their opposition to the use of the multi-box system provided under the law. The DP wants one ballot box. In a statement issued this evening at the end of the meeting of the Central Executive Committee, the DP was hopeful that with the safeguards promised by the authorities, which safeguards are to be legalized, it is possible to have reasonably free and fair elections even with a multi-box system. The executive further decided that the party will justify this campaign and be more vigilant to ensure that the safeguards are effectively implemented.

PATRIOTIC MOVEMENT DELEGATES CONFERENCE ENDS

LD202224 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] The First Uganda Patriotic Movement Party delegates conference has ended. The delegates conference, which has been in progress for 4 days, has adopted the party's constitution, manifesto and resolutions. During election of office bearers, Mr Yoweri Museveni, vice chairman of the Military Commission, was elected unopposed as the party's presidential candidate. The vice presidents were Mr [name indistinct]; Rev Father (Okoth); Mr Lukongwa Binaisa; and Mr (Ukira).

Later there was a reception at the Kampala International Hotel.

SUDANESE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR DISCUSSIONS 20 NOV

LD202006 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A high-powered Sudanese delegation led by the commissioner for Equatoria Province, Mr (Venancio Laro), and the commanding officer of the 1st Infantry Division of the Sudanese People's Armed Forces, Maj Gen (Fredrick Brian Lago), has arrived in Uganda to discuss matters of mutual interest between the two countries.

On arrival at Lira airfield, the delegation was met by the army chief of staff, Brig David Oyite Ojok; the brigade commander, Northern Province, Lt Col (Smith Toli); the district commissioner, Capt (John Opor); and Maj (Francis Oduor) of general headquarters, Kampala.

Later, the team proceeded to (Kichobe) lodge for further talks.

KAMPALA RADIO REPORTS MURDER OF MUWANGA RELATIVES

LD201820 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The bodies of the late (Onyagi Sengova) and (Josia Musoke-Talongo), brother and brother-in-law respectively of the chairman of the Military Commission, Mr Paulo Muwanga, have been laid to rest. They were shot by gangsters and armed thugs at Luwera on the Kampala-Masaka road.

The late (Onyagi Sengova) was buried at Bombo in (Mulukuta), and the late (Josia Musoke-Talongo) at Kawempe.

The late (Josia Musoke) is survived by a widow and 10 children. He was aged 54.

BRIEFS

CHOLERA IN TANZANIA--Singida: Cholera, which is affecting the regions of Singida, Shinyanga and Tabora, has killed 200 people since its outbreak. Reports presented to a meeting of leaders of the affected regions at Nzega, Tabora region, say many patients suffering from the disease have been admitted to various hospitals for treatment. According to these reports, the disease has killed 100 people in Shinyanga region, 63 of whom are from Maswa district, which has 92 patients in 15 villages to date. Shinyanga Urban had 33 deaths during the same period and four others died in Bariadi district. In Singida region, where the disease has hit 14 villages, the death toll stands at 94, while more than 800 people have been admitted at centers set up to fight the disease in Iramba and Sinida districts. On the situation in Tabora, the meeting was informed that 7 people had died in (Ivimba) district in the past 4 months, while 13 people were receiving treatment. [Excerpt] [Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 18 Nov 80 EA]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

DACKO ADDRESS TO GOVERNMENT CADRES ON 19 NOV

AB201000 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Address by CAR President David Dacko to a meeting of government cadres in Bangui on 19 November--recorded]

[Excerpts] Ten days ago, I summoned a meeting of our cadres to order to draw their attention to the malaise that is gradually taking root in our administration. During the meeting, I talked to you about the things for which we the cadres are being blamed by the CAR people, whom we must serve. In my speech, I appealed to all CAR citizens to be aware of their responsibilities and to be motivated in the accomplishment of their national duties. I would like each CAR citizen to be concerned about the future of our country by taking an active part in the government's efforts. I must tell you that the reconstruction of a country is a long and exacting task that demands constant and sustained efforts from all of you.

I am strongly convinced that the renaissance of this country can never be the work of a single political faction, however powerful it may be. History teaches us that the unity of a people is the surest guarantee for the construction of a strong and stable nation. Most of our country's difficulties in the field of development can be attributed to economic and financial problems, but they can also be attributed to our present political differences. This means that no action aimed at improving our situation or relaunching the economy has any chance of success if we do not first of all take serious measures to ease the political tension. I think the main causes of the malaise in the Central African Republic and of the obstacles now paralyzing the harmonious progress of our country can be summed up in five points: Lack of structures for exchanges of ideas [words indistinct]--we therefore need a national assembly and an economic council; lack of motivation of the youth, who are not involved in national responsibilities; problems connected with Bokassa and his accomplices, which have become campaign topics; lack of an adequate solution for the eradication of the social evils and moral depravity engendered by the Bokassa regime; and finally, lack of a coherent foreign policy, particularly in the field of cooperation and technical assistance.

Concerning the first point, and as I pointed out elsewhere, no regime can rule for long against the opinion of the people. The 14 bloody years of the Bokassa dictatorship have aroused the political awareness of the CAR people, who are concerned about their country's future. Pending the establishment of democratic and constitutional institutions, we must create immediately national structures for the exchange of ideas on the fundamental orientations of the nation. I have, therefore, decided that a national seminar will be held from 8 to 14 December 1980. It will be attended by representatives of national political movements, youth movements, labor unions, employers associations, women's associations, the national army and the territorial communities. This seminar, which will be an adequate forum for dialogue, will enable all the nation's active elements to work for the consolidation of national unity and will result in the creation of a vast movement leading to a national union for the independence and renaissance of the Central African Republic. While preserving the internal autonomy of each federated movement, the national union so achieved will eliminate the negative effects of the multiparty system and thus help promote policies that will be in the national interest. It will examine the draft constitution before it is adopted in a popular referendum.

Second point: The cadres and the youth are of the opinion that since the change of regime, the government has adopted toward them a systematic attitude of demobilization and is increasingly practicing a policy of "decentralafricanization" of the cadres and enterprises. This is part of the malaise I have just talked about [words indistinct]. Apart from their participation in the seminar, the national cadres may be called upon to hold a special conference during which they will be asked to study problems concerning the economic, social and cultural development of the country and to present the results of their discussions to the government.

Third point: The slow progress of the trial and the lack of clarification of the situation of Bokassa and his accomplices seem to constitute one of the main causes of the present tension. The people in general and the numerous families who have been plunged into mourning by the crimes of the former emperor and his accomplices in particular are of the opinion that the head of state wants to delay the progress of the trial of the personalities of the former regime and the execution of the verdicts already delivered and that he is trying to hush up the matter because of his relationship with most of the accused. [words indistinct] It is a fact that the systematic execution of the sentences delivered does not necessarily constitute the best way of solving the problem of the tension that now hangs over the country, and it will certainly not help promote the national reconciliation so essential to the consolidation of the country's unity. In view of the complexity of the situation, I may consult the seminar about this serious problem, the solution of which should not be left to only one man.

Fourth point: Bokassa's long regime has resulted in moral depravity and the development of a spirit of strife in many of our fellow citizens and a [word indistinct] which are prejudicial to the public interest. [words indistinct] Finally, there are the problems of the arrogance of some cadres and the reactionary sentiments of nepotism, tribalism and (?fear) of people. If these evils are not mercilessly eradicated, it will not be easy for us to ensure the success of the efforts that all of us must make to rebuild our country. Therefore, the government will soon introduce some firm measures, including the outright removal of all doubtful, incapable, dishonest, drunken and undesirable elements from the public service. A national commission in charge of purifying the public service will be set up and will have to submit concrete recommendations to the government as soon as possible.

Concerning the properties abusively acquired by the former tyrant, measures will be taken to confiscate and sequestrate all of them pending the final decision of the court. Moreover, measures should be taken henceforth to ensure that such acts of spoliation to the detriment of the public are never repeated.

To conclude, the sovereign and independent state of the Central African Republic is free to conclude with all peace-loving nations agreements of cooperation and defense which it considers beneficial and in the people's interest. [applause] In the present national and international context, no realistic national cadre can fail to recognize the (?importance) of the assistance France is giving us in the civil as well as military fields. However, the framework of this cooperation must be clearly defined so that the freely concluded agreements may safeguard the reciprocal interests of both parties.

I think these are the sectors in which courageous actions must be undertaken in order to improve the country's political and social atmosphere and create an adequate framework for discussions which can result in a coherent plan of economic and social development. To achieve this, all the protagonists must demonstrate a sincere desire for dialogue and must have no ulterior or low motives. They must refuse to allow themselves to be manipulated by foreign evil forces which, far from helping us to build our country, will endeavor to divide and weaken us in order to exploit us better. As far as I am concerned, I am convinced that it is under these conditions that the new government will be able to succeed [words indistinct]. This success demands an atmosphere of warm and mutual confidence between the head of state and the prime minister, who cannot play an effective role if he confines himself to tasks of economic and administrative coordination. In order to be able to assist the head of state in his difficult task, the prime minister must have the prerogatives generally enjoyed by a true head of government. These are some of the problems I would like the cadres of the Central African Republic to think about. [applause]

COMMENTARY ON NEW GOVERNMENT STRESSES UNITY

AB191116 Bangui Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Hubert Marie (Djamani) commentary]

[Text] The president of the republic this morning presented to the nation the government formed by the new prime minister, Mr Jean-Pierre Lebouder. As a reminder, this government, in the very words of its leader, was created without tribal prejudice. The post of vice prime minister has been abolished. There is only one minister of state and 13 ministers and 6 secretaries of state. President David Dacko bases his hope for national unity on the structure of the new team. The event inspired Hubert Marie (Djamani) to make a few comments.

[Begin recording] Yes, the speech which the president of the republic, Mr David Dacko, delivered this morning at the ceremony of the presentation of the new government of the state incontestably marks a turning point in the political life of the nation. By its density, depth and direct tone, the speech of Mr David Dacko exposes the new political machinery that will henceforth give a different meaning to the actions that will be taken between now and 1 December, that is, the democratization process in the Central African republic.

If you like, I will not go back over the main points in the government program. Besides, it is premature to speak of that program or even to outline its main points as the prime minister and government leader, Jean-Pierre Lebouder, also stressed this morning. This evening, I simply want to draw your attention to the words which recurred several times in the head of state's speech--that is, reconciliation, union and dialogue. What is behind this trilogy? What meaning can we give to these three words which I noted in passing and which continue to haunt the head of state's mind these days?

To take up the challenge left by Bokassa, we need to reconcile with one another and unite. We must be reconciled in peace and harmony and without passion and the spirit of revenge. We need to rally around the same program: national reconstruction animated by the same ideal and faith--The faith that moves mountains. Reconciliation, union and dialogue: These are three main principles which now constitute a real obsession for the head of state, and this obsession has resulted in his determination to do everything to establish an atmosphere of political detente and to ease the social atmosphere. This is why the head of state gave the prime minister a free hand in forming the new government [words indistinct]. This is because he wishes to leave the door open to the intellectual elite and the technocrats. He has also opened the door to all the various factions which must now merge together in the same crucible represented by the government in order to inspire it with a mobilizing and powerful dynamism. No UDC [Central African Democratic Union] and MPLC [Popular Movement for the Liberation of the Central African Republic] factions should now exist within the government, which should consist only of CAR citizens animated by the will to rebuild our country.

This is the spirit of the government with a completely new style formed last Sunday. To create the new CAR society, it is necessary that every CAR citizen should participate. As the head of state has said, the new government will take all measures to institute this dialogue which we are all waiting for--a constructive dialogue which will begin immediately after the 1 December national festival. We must all make enthusiastic preparations for this national day, celebrations which must, in principle, demonstrate this common will to ease tension and participate in nation building.

The new government will therefore aim at creating favorable conditions for dialogue and exchanges of ideas in order to realize the changes necessary for the establishment of a CAR democracy which will be in harmony with the heritage of our ancestors and in communion with the numerous persons who died for our country. This democracy should also be in conformity with the ideals and principles of the organization of African unity and the United Nations. Now that we have recovered our dignity, that freedom is guaranteed and the spirit of dialogue prevails--I am quoting the head of state--the new CAR society will be set up and we will achieve a harmonious national recovery. We have done away with the policy of narrow-mindedness, terror and passion; I believe that the head of state's message to all the people of the Central African Republic is one of dialogue, reconciliation and union. [end recording]

CHAD

FRICTION BETWEEN FAP, LIBYAN TROOPS, FIGHTING REPORTED

AB201344 Paris AFP in French 1115 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 20 November, (AFP)--It has been learned from various sources in Ndjamena that several soldiers belonging to the Popular Armed Forces (FAP), the faction led by Mr Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chadian Government, have deserted their base following a series of clashes between them and the Libyan soldiers. According to these sources, the Libyan soldiers, who arrived in Ndjamena, especially in the Lake Chad region, to strengthen Mr Goukouni Oueddei's troops started to maltreat the peasants on the very first days after their arrival there. According to the reports of witnesses, these soldiers also attempted to disarm the FAP elements, whom they treat as slaves. In Kousseri, on the Cameroonian bank of the Chari opposite Ndjamena, two FAP soldiers who had left the Chadian capital have said that they were disgusted by the way they were treated by their Libyan allies.

Fighting in Ndjamena

AB201210 Paris AFP in English 1143 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Ndjamena, 20 Nov (AFP)--The latest violent battle for control of the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, moved into its third day of intense fighting today with little change in the battle lines drawn up between the allied forces of President Goukouni Oueddei and those of rebel Defense Minister Hissein Habre. This correspondent saw Libyan paratroops fighting alongside President Goukouni's loyalist forces, who consist mainly of units from the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) of vice president Abdelkader Kamougue, leader of the southern faction in Chad's complex political scene. The Libyan ground force was backed by light air support. Loyalist forces, who launched their latest offensive before dawn on Tuesday, have managed to recapture most of the gendarmerie barracks school and the buildings close to the nearby airfield. In Kousseri, across the Chari River from the city in Cameroon, eyewitnesses saw two helicopters and a light aircraft brought down in flames on Tuesday in the area of the civil airport.

CONGO

PRIME MINISTER PRESENTS DRAFT BUDGET TO ASSEMBLY

AB201348 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Excerpt] The government, represented by Prime Minister Louis Sylvain Goma, yesterday morning presented the 1981 draft national budget to the People's National Assembly. The budget is balanced at the sum of 149,934,380,000 francs. The recurrent budget amounts to 101,693,041,000 francs while the capital budget amounts to 48,241,339,000 francs. Our first remark is that the 1981 national budget is (?40,208,034,660) francs higher than that of last year.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM FRANCE, MOROCCO

AB210946 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] Lt Col Teodore Obiang Nguema Mbazogo, head of state of Equitorial Guinea, returned to Malabo yesterday from an official visit to France with a stopover in Morocco. From the talks the Equitorial Guinean head of state had with King Hassan II of Morocco, it was agreed that a team of Moroccan experts will soon go to Malabo to study that country's needs in the various sectors of its development. It should be stated that relations between the new leaders of Equitorial Guinea and Rabat have been very cordial.

GABON

SOUTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS VISIT

AB211055 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] The South Korean foreign minister, Mr No Sin-Yon, left Libreville today for Dakar. The South Korean foreign minister paid a few days' friendly visit to our country and expressed his happiness about the economic and political unity in our country.

The head of Korean diplomacy, who delivered a message from his head of state to El Hadj Omar Bongo, was received in audience at the renovation palace a day after his arrival in Libreville.

Mr No Sin-Yong then paid a courtesy call on prime minister Mr Leon Mbeiame; Minister of State Edouard-Alexis Mbouy-Boutzit and Secretary of State Bartelemy Mbia, who received him on behalf of the first vice prime minister, Mr Georges Rawiri.

SPAIN'S JUAN CARLOS I TO VISIT GABON 7-10

AB202228 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] At the invitation of his excellency, the president of the republic, and Mrs Josephine Bongo, their majesties King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sophie of Spain will make an official visit to Gabon from 7 to 10 December 1980. This is a communique from the presidency of the republic. We must right away say that the relations between Gabon and Spain are good. These relations can only be compared to President Bongo's credibility at the international level.

In agreeing to pay a 4-day official visit to Gabon, King Juan Carlos I of Spain once more demonstrates the credibility which the Gabonese statesman enjoys. No doubt, following the visit of the Spanish royal couple, the relations of cooperation between Libreville and Madrid will be further strengthened.

ZAIRE

EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE, CHAD

AB191222 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0720 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Nov (AZAP)--The founding chairman of the popular movement of the revolution [MPR] and president of the republic, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, received in audience on Tuesday evening in Camp Tshatshi the Egyptian deputy prime minister, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, who delivered a message to him from President as-Sadat of Egypt. The Egyptian statesman took the opportunity to present Citizen Mobutu with a chest, a product of Egyptian handicraft, and a gift from President as-Sadat.

Mr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, who is also the secretary general of the National Democratic Party (President as-Sadat's party) and former president of the parliamentary commission for foreign affairs, is leading his country's delegation to the ceremony of the installation of the MPR Central Committee and the 15th anniversary of the second republic.

At the end of the audience, he declared that relations between Egypt and Zaire are always extremely close. He stressed that Egypt has not forgotten the support that President Mobutu has always given to the Egyptian cause, first of all in the United Nations in 1973, then during the October war and finally when President as-Sadat signed the Camp David agreement.

Dr Fu-ad then expressed the hope that his delegation's visit to Zaire will contribute to strengthening the relations between the two countries. Replying to a question, he said that his country is now concerned about the liberation of its territory and searching for ways that could lead to the Palestinians recovering all their rights.

Concerning Chad, he declared that Cairo, which scrupulously respects the principle of noninterference in the affairs of other countries, condemns Libya's intervention in the Chad conflict. Egypt, on the other hand, supports all moves to find a negotiated solution between the parties involved in conflict, he said. This is why Egypt supports the holding of an OAU foreign ministers meeting to debate the Chad problem, as was proposed by President Senghor of Senegal.

The Egyptian delegation was led to camp by Citizen Lofo Lyande, a member of the Central Committee.

The commissioner of state in charge of foreign affairs as well as the ambassador of Zaire to Cairo and the ambassador of Egypt to Zaire were present at the audience.

ENVOY EXPLAINS BORDER INCIDENT TO RWANDAN LEADER

AB191104 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0840 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] Kigali, 18 Nov (AZAP)--President Juvenal Habyarimana received in Kigali on Tuesday Citizen Idzumbuir, secretary of state for foreign affiars, who was bearing a message from the head of state, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko.

Interviewed by the press, citizen Idzumbuir indicated that his mission was to explain Zaire's stand concerning the events that occurred last month in the Ugandan province of Western Nile, which borders Zaire.

BENIN

PRPB CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION ENDS 16 NOV

AB171900 Paris AFP in French 1453 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Cotonou, 17 November (AFP)--The third session of the third Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin [PRPB], which opened on 12 November, ended on Sunday under the chairmanship of the head of state, Col Mathieu Kerekou.

At the end of that session, participants examined and adopted documents relating to the institution of local organs of the state authority in accordance with the consitution. According to the final communique, the PRPC Central Committee decided that before their respective congresses are held, the mass organizations will be reorganized, that is, the Youth Organization Committee (COJ), the Women's Organization Committees (COF), and the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution (CDR).

The draft bill on the organization of the people's justice in the People's Republic of Benin was examined and adopted.

In its analysis of the world situation, the third ordinary session of the PRPB Central Committee noted that it continues to be characterized by subversive and destabilizing moves made against the progressive regimes of the Third World in general and of Africa in particular with the creation of areas of tension and hotbeds of war throughout the world.

In regard to the Chadian conflict, the PRPB Central Committee issued a brotherly and militant appeal to the brother people of Chad to end the fratricidal war and to solve their internal problems through negotiation based on the Lagos accords and the Freetown OAU resolution in order to build the Chadian nation in unity and concord.

In addition, it called on Iran and Iraq to cease the fighting and to solve their differences through negotiations, in the interest of their two peoples. In conclusion, it reaffirmed the support of the militant Beninese people for the just struggle of the Sahran, Namibian, South African and Palestinian people for their national liberation.

CAPE VERDE

DEFENSE MINISTER, TEIXEIRA TO GO TO BISSAU

LD202124 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1930 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] A report from the Cape Verdian capital of Praia reaching Lisbon this afternoon says that the country's defense minister, Commander Silvino da Luz, has left for Bissau, in a special aircraft, for talks with the council of the revolution which has taken over all powers in Guinea-Bissau since last week's coup. The Cape Verdian minister had declined to make a statement to the press prior to his departure, the report said.

Meanwhile, Maj Constantino Teixeira, minister of the interior in the deposed government of Guinea-Bissau, has left Lisbon for a 2-day stopover in Las Palmas, before flying back to Bissau. The deposed minister, who was in Lisbon at the time of the coup, said on departure that he was returning home earlier than scheduled in response to a broadcast over Bissau radio by Bernardino Vieira, the country's strongman today, urging all Guinea-Bissau citizens abroad to return home. Constantino Texixeira said he had friendly ties with Barnardino Vieira and denied having telephoned President Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde to convey his allegiance to the African Independence Party of Guinea--Bissau and Cape Verde and to condemn the coup.

GHANA

UK TO BE ASKED TO EXTRADICT MEN INVOLVED WITH RAWLINGS

AB141110 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Text] The government intends to institute proceedings in London for the extradition to Ghana of four of the men involved in the Ussher Fort jail break. A white paper on the report of the commission of enquiry into the jailbreak published yesterday said government accepts the findings of the commission that the escapees were in lawful custody in pursuance of a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction on a valid warrant of commitment at the time of their escape from prison. The government did not, however, accept the findings of the commission that there was no link between the alleged destruction of the warrants covering the prisoners by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings on 8 November and their escape from prison on 12 November last year.

According to the white paper, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings did not accept the validity of the conviction and actively encouraged the convicts to believe in their early release. He personally approved exceptional, preferential and extra comfort for them which were not available to other convicts. He took active and (?forceful) steps to have the warrant destroyed.

On the basis that man cannot escape the consequences of his actions, the white paper said Flight Lieutenant Rawlings can, therefore, not be exonerated of his share of the blame through the encouragement he offered and direct personal involvement in the jailbreak.

The white paper stated, however, that government accepts Flight Lieutenant Rawlings allegedly contradictory declaration of loyalty to the state. It states that the view of the government that no useful purpose would have been served by the commission traveling at great public cost overseas to take evidence of the fugitives. If the escapees had been sincerely eager to give evidence of their innocence, nothing stops them from communicating to the commission their version of the events, but they failed to do that. The white paper observed that had the convicts escaped through criminal conspiracy with the prison officers or the staff of electricity corporation,or other persons not yet known, it would be naive to expect them to give evidence incriminating both themselves and those to whom they owe their escape.

As regards the prison officers mentioned in connection with the jailbreak, government has directed that all of them except two should be dismissed. They are Mr A.K. Oppong, then acting director; Mr J.B.K. Binful, superintendnet of prisons; Mr S.M. Alhassan, superintendent;and Mr E.K. Fiahagbe, chief officer. Others to be dismissed are Mr J. Searam, chief officer; Mr M.K. Allotey, lance corporal; Mr P.A. Nartey, superintendent of prisons, is to be retired, and Mr E.K. Tamakloe, deputy prisons superintendent is to be transferred.

ACP PARTY CALLS FOR INQUIRY INTO TAMALE INCIDENT

AB150819 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] The Action Congress Party [ACP] has joined the PFP [Popular Front Party] in calling on the government to institute a commission of inquiry into the events that led to the imposition of the curfew in Tamale, and the attack on the life of the SDF [Social Democratic Front] leader, Alhaji Ibrahim Mahama.

In a statement issued in Accra yesterday, the ACP leader, Colonel Bernasko, said it is most unfortunate that an otherwise harmless protest march of citizens to express their unhappiness about their plight could be allowed to develop into a serious confrontation. The statement deplored what it called the illegal and unconstitutional way in which the curfew was imposed by the regional minister.

UNC PARTY SETS CONDITIONS FOR POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AB161324 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] The United National Convention, UNC, has spelled out conditions under which the party would be prepared to form an alliance with any political party in the country. Speaking at a rally in Accra, the general secretary of the UNC, Dr Obed Assmoah, said the party will insist that its principles for [word indistinct] democracy are preserved under any alliance. Secondly, a person with excellent leadership qualities should be named to head the alliance. The UNC, he said, broke its alliance with the PNP [People's National Party] because it was not prepared to use the talents placed at its disposal by the UNC for the efficient administration of the country.

The leader of the party, Mr William Ofori Atta, spoke about democracy and what it means to the party. He said the UNC strongly believes in the principles that government must be changed constitutionally. The party would, therefore, not support any attempt to overthrow the present government through force.

PAPER SEES 'HOPEFUL SIGN' IN LIMANN CABINET RESHUFFLE

AB181431 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The PIONEER looks at the recent cabinet reshuffle by President Limann which coincided with the fall of President Luis Cabral of Buinea-Bissau. Drawing a parallel between the two regimes, the paper says on the one hand the reshuffle can be regarded as a hopeful sign that Dr Limann acknowledges public feeling and is prepared to respond by making changes in his administration. On the other hand, Cabral's downfall underlines the danger of not responding to public feeling and to resentment built up. The PIONEER hopes, however, that the reshuffle will produce meaningful results in terms of a more urgent attack on the problems of the ordinary Ghanaian. It says a lot of time has already been spent on laying a sound foundation by rebuilding confidence in Ghana's trading partners. The PIONEER agrees that this is necessary but points out that it appears to the ordinary man in the street that his trouble has been ignored.

PAPER URGES ACTION AGAINST POLITICAL VIOLENCE

AB172221 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The GHANAIAN TIMES adds its voice to the appeal by the SDF [Social Democratic Front] to leaders of all political parties to take (?concerted) action against the reemergence of political violence in the country. It says no Ghanaian in his right senses would wish a return to the bad old days when might was right. The paper says it would have been happier if the SDF's appeal had been made a bit earlier; perhaps just after the recent demonstrations in Tamale or before the attack on the party's leaders. All the same, the TIMES thinks it is not too late. It hoped all the political parties would receive the appeal in good faith and let peace and calm prevail.

GOVERNMENT 'BLACKMAIL' OF RAWLINGS CRITICIZED

AB191536 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The BELIEVER does not understand why the government rejected part of the jailbreak probe findings which exonerated Flight Lieutenant Rawlings from the Ussher Fort Jailbreak episode last year. The paper views the decision of the government on the prison officers as too harsh and that on Flight Lieutenant Rawlings as one of the calculated attempts by the government to blackmail him.

It is the view of the BELIEVER that if the government has evidence of the involvement of Flight Lieutenant Rawlings and the prison officers as alleged, then they should be arraigned before court to defend themselves instead of throwing dust into the public's eyes. The paper also calls on the government to speed up proceedings in London for the extradition of the escaped convicts.

GUINEA-BISSAU

NEW GOVERNMENT APPEALS FOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AID

AB201612 Paris AFP in French 1021 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Bissau, 20 November (AFP)--It has been learned from informed sources in Bissau that Guinea-Bissau has asked for international financial aid through the National Bank of Guinea-Bissau. This decision was taken by the revolutionary council which has been governing Guinea-Bissau since the overthrow of President Luis Cabral on 14 November. Apparently this exceptional request for aid is justified by a very bad financial situation which has been prevailing for several weeks.

REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL DISSOLVES FORMER STATE ORGANS

AB201530 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1320 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] Bissau, 20 November (AZAP)--The revolutionary council which took over power in Guinea-Bissau on Friday, on Wednesday evening released its first law dissolving all former state organs. Consequently, Mr Luis Severino de Almeida Casral, chairman of the State Council, has been relieved of all his functions. Mr Cabral was in fact relieved of his functions as soon as he was overthrown.

In addition, the National Assembly and the State Council have been dissolved. The Council of State Commissioners (the council of ministers) ceases to exist. The ministers serving in it have been relieved of their posts as of this day. All power has, therefore, been removed from state organs, and has been transferred to the revolutionary council. The revolutionary council members in Bissau are now expected to distribute the ministerial posts among themselves.

LIBERIA

INFORMATION MINISTER EXPLAINS 19 NOV TRAFFIC BAN

AB210850 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 0625 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] Information Minister Gabriel Nimley, in a special broadcast to the Liberian nation, has clarified the circumstances surrounding Wednesday's broadcast about an announcement from the executive mansion (?suddenly) after the head of state, Master Sergeant Doe, cancelled his trip to the Republic of Guinea.

Minister Nimely, who said he was broadcasting to the Liberian people in response to numerous telephone calls and other requests received from the public, explained that the announcement was issued by the Executive Mansion guard battalion and was rather meant to be in effect as long as Head of State Samuel Doe was out of Liberia. The announcement had ordered all traffic off the Executive Mansion grounds after 1600 whenever Head of State Sergeant Doe is out of the country. The information minister said that the broadcast of that announcement following the return of the head of state to the capital was purely a coincidence in that it was meant to be effective only as long as the head of state was out of the country. Minister Nimley further said that the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism regrets any inconvenience this coincidence might have caused the public. He assured all citizens, businessmen and the general public that all is well in Liberia and there is no need to panic about unnecessary fears.

MALI

TRAORE INTERVIEWED ON TRIP TO FRANCE, KUWAIT

AB181240 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Interview with President Brig Gen Moussa Traore by unidentified radio correspondent in Bamako on 17 November--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, after Rome, where you pleaded the cause of the Sahel a month ago, you have just presided over the fourth conference of the Sahel Club in Kuwait. Could you brief us on the results of this conference at a time when the Sahel is still experiencing the disastrous effects of drought?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, following my statement at the Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] in Rome before the intergovernmental committee of the aid program in order to raise the consciousness of the international community on the seriousness of the situation that the Sahel is experiencing again, I have just presided--still as the current chairman of the Interstate Committee to Fight the Drought in the Sahel [CILSS]--over the fourth conference of the Sahel Club in Kuwait. This tool of solidarity, which was set up in March 1976 in Dakar with CILSS approval and on proposal of some OCDE member states, defines itself as a good example of international cooperation. The aims it sets itself--draw up a strategy for more efficient food aid, establish better cooperation between donors and Sahelian countries and examine the problems of the region's development--were implemented through the Ottawa conference in Canada, in June 1977; the Amsterdam conference in the Netherlands, in November 1978; and finally, the recent Kuwait conference. As stressed in my statement, the Kuwait meeting is of paramount importance at least for two reasons. First, this conference was held at a time when the international outlook has sharply deteriorated and above all at a time when drought is beginning once again in the Sahel with all the consequences that you are aware of. Second, this fourth conference is of paramount importance because it allowed us--Sahelian countries, Arab countries and international organizations--to ponder over our cooperation in order to dynamize it and to take stock of actions undertaken by the Sahel Club. Moreover, this conference will allow us to find solutions to the burning issue of financing recurring costs linked to the project of the development of the Sahel. Lastly, to me this conference was highly important because it took place after the broadening of the friends of Sahel, particularly with the "food corps," the World Food Council and the Islamic Conference, to cite only a few names.

This conference confirmed the active solidarity and the complete readiness of our Arab brothers. Two other facts should also be noticed because they are living proof of the solidarity of Arab countries with the Sahel. They are the holding of the conference in Kuwait and the effective presence of nine Arab institutions familiar with international development problems whereas only one attended the Sahel Club conference in 1976. The most important achievements of this fourth Sahel Club conference will doubtless be a better coordination of efforts by CILSS member-countries and by countries and organizations belonging to the Sahel Club and increased resources for purposes of bringing sufficient food aid to the Sahelian countries and lastly, the implementation of concerted action to ensure the mastery of water, to secure enough food and to rehabilitate the Sahel.

[Question] Mr President, you met in particular with the amir of Kuwait and you gave audiences to the directors and representatives of the various Arab development funds and institutions. Could you tell us the different points you discussed together?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, I had a personal encounter with His Royal Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. I must confess that our discussion touched on the drought in Sahel and how to improve the ways and means of rehabilitating the Sahel. During our discussions, we emphasized the absolute necessity of dynamizing Arab-African cooperation and obviously we touched on strengthening bilateral cooperation between Kuwait and Mali. My discussions with the director of the Kuwaiti economic development fund and the directors or representatives of the various Arab financial institutions confirmed my conviction regarding the complete readiness of our Arab brothers to help the Sahelian people. I also met with the head of the American delegation and the general manager of the USAID: the representatives of WHO and the IMF; as well as the West African Rice Development Association executive secretary. All these discussions allowed us to take stock of some great development projects for Mali and to exchange views on the best approaches to cooperation, agricultural development and health policy.

[Question] Mr President, on your way to Kuwait you made a stopover in Paris where you met with your French counterpart, Mr Valery Giscard D'estaing. You travel back from Kuwait with the French minister of cooperation, Mr Robert Galley. Does that mean that the cooperation between Bamako and Paris is excellent?

[Answer] That's true. On my way to Kuwait, I made a stopover in Paris where I met with the president of the French Republic on bilateral matters, particularly on the strengthening of cooperation between Bamako and Paris. One can say today that the cooperation between our two countries is excellent. In conclusion, let me once more, in the name of the delegation which accompanied me and in my own name, extend to His Excellency Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, to all the Kuwaiti officials and to the Kuwaiti people our thanks for the warm welcome given to us and for the particular attention which were granted us during our stay in Kuwait.

NIGER

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF KEREKOU VISIT

AB201326 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] The chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, Col Seyni Kountche, and President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin left Niamey this afternoon for Conakry at the end of the latter's friendly and working visit to Niger. The two heads of state will participate in the summit conference of the heads of state of the Niger River Commission Shortly before their departure, the Niver and Beninese heads of state signed the final communique published at the end of the friendly and working visit of Col Mathieu Kerekou to our country. Following is the final communique:

His Excellency Col Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, president of the republic, head of state and chairman of the National Executive Council, paid a friendly and working visit to the Republic of Niger from 18 to 19 November 1980. The Beninese head of state and the delegation which accompanied him were accorded a warm and fraternal welcome by His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger and by the government and people of Niger. The president of the People's Republic of Benin was accompanied by Simon Ifede Ogouma, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Martin Dohou Azonihiho, minister of information and propaganda; Francois Dossou, minister of transport and communications and Mr Abdoulaye (Sangare Oumar), ambassador of the People's Republic of Benin in Niger. On this occasion, the head of state of Niger was accompanied by Mr Daouda Diallo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Mr Oumarou Diallo, minister of public works, transport and urbanism; and El Hadj Amadou Moumouni, Niger's ambassador to the People's Republic of Benin.

The two heads of state held discussions on bilateral relations and current African and international problems. These discussions were held under friendly and fraternal conditions and in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. In the field of bilateral relations, the two heads of state examined the results of the deliberations of the fifth session of the Benin-Niger Joint Commission on cooperation held in Niamey from 15 to 17 November 1980. In this connection, they expressed satisfaction about the excellent ties between their two countries and agreed to do their best to strengthen the cooperation between Benin and Niger and to develop the bonds of friendship, brotherhood and solidarity existing between the peoples of Benin and Niger.

Concerning the project of extending the railroad between the two countries, the two heads of state reaffirmed their common political desire to rapidly realize this project, which the two countries, in view of their development plans, consider of prime importance.

Concerning Africa, the two heads of state expressed great concern about the existence and multiplication of hotbeds of tension created here and there in Africa because of cupidity and a desire for domination which are incompatible with the peace and progress to which the African peoples legitimately aspire. In this connection, the two heads of state emphasized that respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of each state, noninterference in other people's affairs and the peaceful settlement of differences which may crop up between African states are essential conditions for the maintenance of peace and progress in Africa.

Concerning particularly the situation prevailing in Chad, the two heads of state reached the conclusion that the return of peace to that country--which has been so devastated by the fratricidal war now going on there--depends on the cessation of all foreign interference in Chad's internal affairs and respect of the Lagos accords by all the parties involved in the conflict. The two heads of state expressed their firm support for the OAU ad hoc committee in its efforts to find a solution to this painful conflict.

Concerning the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state reiterated their lasting support for the just struggle of the African nationalists, led by their liberation movements, against colonialism and racial discrimination and for the advent of a majority government in Namibia and South Africa. They reaffirmed their commitment to do everything in the diplomatic, political and economic fields and within the framework of the OAU, the United Nations, the movement of monaligned countries and the other international organizations so that the Namibian people may achieve their national independence and to ensure the total and final elimination of the odious system of apartheid in South Africa.

Concerning Inter-African economic cooperation, the two heads of state emphasized the need to do everything to ensure the realization of the plan of action adopted in Lagos during the first OAU summit conference devoted to economic problems. In this regard, the two heads of state expressed the view that subregional economic groupings like the Entente Council, the Niger River Commission and the Economic Community of West African States constitute important stages on the path to creating an African common market.

Concerning international affairs, the two heads of state reaffirmed their countries' support for the policy of nonalignment, which constitutes an important factor for the maintenance of international peace and security. They expressed great concern about the bloody conflict between the brotherly and neighboring Iranian and Iraqi peoples and declared strong support for the various mediation attempts aimed at finding a just and peaceful solution in conformity with the principles of international law. The two heads of state also reaffirmed their countries' determination to work for the advent of a veritable new international economic order, on which depends the consolidation of peace and the progress of mankind.

His Excellency Col Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary party and president of the republic, expressed warm gratitude to His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche and the people and Government of the Niger Republic for the particularly fraternal and warm reception accorded him and his delegation. The Beninese head of state invited His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche to pay a friendly visit to the People's Republic of Benin. The Niger head of state accepted this invitation with pleasure. The date of the visit will be fixed through common agreement in the diplomatic channel.

Issued in Niamey on 19 November 1980;[signed] Col Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state; Col Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, president of the republic, head of state and chairman of the National Executive Council.

Kerekou Statement

AB201827 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Before leaving our capital, the Beninese head of state, Col Mathieu Kerekou, gave a press conference in which he mentioned the project for the expansion of the Cotonou Autonomous Seaport and the extending of the Parakou-Niamey Railroad. In this connection, he emphasized the importance of these projects for both countries.

[Begin recording] Plans for the expanding of the Autonomous Port of Cotonou and for the extending of the Parakou-Niamey Railroad via Malanville, Gaya and Dosso are truly two projects of major importance for the freeing of the Niger Republic from its landlocked condition. As you may be aware work has already begun in this regard and is progressing normally. As a matter of fact, the work underway is scheduled to be completed before the end of 1981.

With respect to the railroad, the feasibility studies which have been completed confirm its economic profitability. Therefore, it is obviously important for the Niger Republic and Benin.

With respect to raising the necessary funds for the implementation of this project, the Benin-Niger Railroad high authority will organize a meeting of fund contributors in the Niger capital, Niamey, in the next few months. President Kountche and myself have on several occasions reaffirmed our strong political determination to quickly implement the projects, which the two countries consider as priority projects, as shown in their national development programs. In short, this is all that I can tell you on the present status of the two projects to which we are much attached. [end recording]

Colonel Kerekou will attend the summit conference of the Niger River Commission. The Beninese head of state expects the commission to take consistent decisions after examining the issues on its agenda. Let us listen to President Kerekou:

[Begin recording] Our main concern is for the summit conference of the Niger River Commission scheduled to take place in Conakry, Guinea, from 20 to 22 November 1980, to be attended by the leaders of the member countries and also by the leaders of the countries having observer status in this subregional organization of our continent, Africa. We believe that the presence of everyone will make it possible for us to take consistent decisions after discussing the various issues on our agenda.

In any event, the People's Republic of Benin, which is a founding member of this subregional organization, will continue to make its modest but efficient contribution as it has always done. Like their colleagues from other countries, Beninese experts are already in Conakry. I will personally lead the delegation of our party and revolutionary state to the summit conference of the Niger River Commission. [end recording]

The Chadian people must alone determine their fate. President Kerekou said this in concluding the statement he made in reply to a question on the Chad conflict. Everyone undoubtedly recalls that Benin is one of the countries--along with Togo, Congo and Guinea--appointed to set up the OAU ad hoc committee in charge of settling the Chad conflict. However, one of the warring factions has questioned the impartiality of Benin in the conflict. In this regard, President Kerekou made the following clarifications:

[Begin recording] Benin's position strictly conforms to the letter and the spirit of the Lagos accord and the resolutions adopted at the Freetown OAU meeting.

First of all, our position is consistent with the accord signed in Lagos on 18 August 1979 and which remains--as far as we are aware--the only official juridical document freely signed by all 11 factions involved in the Chad conflict.

Comrade newsmen, we still recall that the setting-up of the Transitional National Union Government chaired by President Goukouni was achieved on the basis of the accord. Within the framework of this agreement, our country was designated, along with Congo and Guinea, to contribute to restoring and maintaining peace in Chad by making contingents available for the OAU peace-keeping force.

Up until now, the African organization has not repudiated its commitment as far as the accord is concerned. On the contrary, the 17th ordinary summit conference held in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 1 to 4 July 1980,clearly and formally upheld that accord as the basis for a just settlement of the Chad conflict.

The position officially upheld by the People's Republic of Benin on this issue has never pleased the internal and external enemies of Africa. After unsuccessfully attempting to hamper the signing of the agreement, they immediately launched a campaign of vilification after the agreement was signed with a view to liquidating it. It is only within this framework that we can place the surprising--often slanderous--statements which have been published in some mass media for nearly 6 months with a view to making international opinion in general and African opinion in particular believe that the People's Republic of Benin is not neutral. This is meant to mask the truth coarsely and to permit them to continue their abominable crimes in Chad. Until further notice, the People's Republic of Benin will stick to legality and ignore the demagogic and passionate declarations of an ordinary adventurous leader of one of the Chad factions. For the prize at stake is the future of the Chad people who must be the only master of their own fate. [end recording]

The current war in Chad is a real danger for Africa, because what is not going on in Chad may happen in any other African country. President Mathieu Kerekou of Benin made this declaration in reply to a question on the increasing destabilization maneuvers in our subregion following the intervention of foreign powers. His declaration follows:

[Begin recording] The shameless fratricidal conflict going on in Chad does not represent a tragedy only for the Chad people. That civil war which has lasted much too long now is a real danger for our continent, Africa, and consequently for the OAU. For what is happening in Chad at present may happen in any other African country in the future. This is possible if the interests for which some people are fighting in Ndjamena and the same conditions as found now in Chad exist to make it possible to repeat the same tragic maneuvers. That is the reason why we believe that we have to be extremely vigilant. If the Chad conflict cannot totally be settled by Chadians themselves, it must be solved by Africans within the framework of the agreements sponsored by the OAU and accepted by Chadians themselves. The framework, as we have just pointed out, is that of the Lagos accord. Any untimely military action in Chad which does not fall within this framework must be considered a direct and inadmissible interference in the internal affairs of Chad.

Now, all interferences eventually become harmful to all of Africa. Such foreign military interventions in fact create new situations which their authors are most of the time unable to face. In this respect The People's Republic of Benin cannot uphold the destabilizing actions being carried out in Africa. It believes, therefore, that all military conflicts inside Africa must be solved by Africans themselves within the framework of the recommendations and resolutions of the OAU. If they are not solved, such conflicts can only further complicate the situation. "Leave Africa to African Leaders" is thus no longer a slogan devoid of any meaning. [end recording]

DPRK VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARRIVES

AB211110 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Nov 80

[Text] The vice minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, His Excellency Kim Kil-Hyon, arrived in Niamey this afternoon. Mr Hyon, was welcomed on arrival by Mr (Sanu Sako), the principal secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and explained the purpose of his visit to Niger.

[Begin Yong recording in Korean with French translation superimposed] We have come to Niamey with deep sentiments of friendship from the Korean people toward the people of Niger. We take this opportunity to send the warm greetings of the Korean people to the inhabitants of the capital, Niamey, and to the entire Niger people. The Korean delegation has come to your country with the hope of further strengthening the bonds of friendship which exist between our country and the Republic of Niger.

We hope to take this opportunity to discuss with the Government of Niger the strengthening of ties between our two countries as well as problems of mutual interest.

The Korean people and the people of Niger, by their common past of being victims of imperialist and colonialist exploitation and by their common aspirations, are closely linked to one another. We are happy to come and see for ourselves the great achievements of the people of Niger under the dynamic leadership of President Seyni Kountche. [end recording]

Members of the Korean delegation made a courtesy call this afternoon on the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Daouda Diallo.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO LIBERATION STRUGGLE

AB210924 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to armed struggle for the liberation of Namibia and the ending of racism in apartheid South Africa. He made the reaffirmation in Lagos last night at the annual dinner of the Nigerian Institution of International Affairs. The president noted that in the past (?few) weeks, attempts have been made to misrepresent the views of the administration as regards ways of bringing about changes in southern Africa. He declared: Let no one underestimate our resolve to make sacrifices for what we believe in. We are prepared to make sacrifices in order that our brothers in bondage may be free.

With reference to South Africa's acquisition of nuclear bombs with the collaboration of its Western allies, President Shehu Shagari pointed out that this clearly portrayed the hypocrisy and double standards of these nations in their African policy. He called on all the signatories to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to discharge their responsibilities and obligations honorably as required by the text.

On the economic scene, the president restated that Nigeria's aim was to ensure the establishment of a new international economic order through active participation in the Group of 77 and in the negotiations between the north and the south. He made it clear that for too long, the rules governing international trade and exchange had been in favor of the industrialized countries and against the interest of developing nations.

PRESIDENT ON PLANS FOR DEVELOPING STEEL INDUSTRY

AB181944 Ibadan Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari today laid the foundation stone of the steel rolling mill at Oshogbo. [words indistinct] The president made a strong case for the setting up of the country's iron and steel development program.

[Begin Shagari recording] [passage indistinct] The present steel projects at Ajaokuta, Alaja, Oshogbo and the others in Kaduna and Jos are all designed to turn out long steel products, which account for about half of our national demand. The fourth national development plan will give priority to the completion of these projects but will also direct attention to our requirements for new complexes for producing flat products, which at present account for about 50 percent of our total consumption of steel and are critical inputs in our march to industrialization. The laying of the foundation stone today of the first rolling mill in Oshogbo certainly marks a significant milestone toward an early realization of our long cherished goal of becoming a steel producing nation. [end recording]

President Shagari announced that the federal government, in its vigorous pursuit of its steel project, recently awarded an 800 million naira project for the development of the steel industry in the country. The Oshogbo steel rolling mill is being constructed at a cost of 80 million naira.

IMPROVEMENTS IN EXTERNAL INFORMATION PROPOSED

AB191227 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Nov 80

[Text] Steps are being taken to ensure that information about Nigeria is not distorted outside the country. To this end, the Department of Information has started telex [words indistinct] services with Nigerian embassies to make it possible for them to produce news bulletins about the country. Disclosing this in the Ogun state capital, Abeokuta, the presidential adviser on information, Chief Olu Adebanjo, said the exercise will also give greater coverage of Nigeria's development program. He stated that the executive will soon send a bill to the national assembly proposing amendments to the press council decree of 1978. Chief Adebanjo explained that this has become necessary as no government could exist without a virile press.

TOGO

PRESIDENT EYADEMA RECEIVES LIBYAN ENVOY

AB191055 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the republic, received a special envoy from President al-Qadhdhafi in audience at [name indistinct] camp in Lome this afternoon. Mr (Ould Diouri) conveyed a message to President Eyadema. The special envoy of President al-Qadhdhafi was accompanied by Mr Koffi Walla, a member of the Central Committee and minister of commerce and transport. After talks with the head of state, Mr (Ahmed Ould Diouri) declared that his visit with the president was within the context of the exchange of (?views) between heads of states on current issues and at the same time the exchange of information and ideas concerning developments in Africa and the relations between our two countries. After expressing his sincere and [word indistinct] sentiments with respect to the Togolese people and their leader, he spoke about the excellent relations existing between Togo and Libya. According to Mr (Ahmed El Ould Diouri), for whom it was an honor to be received by President Eyadema, the role being played by Togo in the international arena is becoming more and more significant. My visit to Togo falls within the framework of exchange between two brothers, Al-Qadhdhafi and Eyadema, on current issues, he added. (?According) to Mr (Ahmed El Ould Diouri), relations between Togo and Libya are excellent, and it is always with the aim of strengthening these relations that brother Al-Qadhdhafi, together with his brother Eyadema, is searching for all ways and means of intensifying them. Speaking about international policy, he declared that the objective of the two governments is to (?help) our two peoples and at the same time plead that African cause in order to better ensure our independence and better consolidate African unity.

ANGOLA

PARTY CONGRESS POSTPONED TO 17 DECEMBER

LD201314 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Text] It has been announced in Luanda that the opening of the first extraordinary congress of the MPLA-Labor Party has been postponed from 4 to 17 December. The decision to postpone was made by the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party due to delays affecting preparations for the congress. Among other important measures the first extraordinary congress MPLA-Labor Party is expected to adopt is the ratification of the appointment of Jose Eduardo dos Santos as president of the party and of the People's Republic of Angola. Jose Eduardo dos Santos was appointed by the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party following the death of President Agostinho Neto.

MOZAMBIQUE

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER VISIT BY VIETNAM'S GIAP

LD201222 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 20 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A Mozambique-Vietnamese joint communique was issued in Maputo yesterday following the official visit paid to our country by Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, the Vietnamese deputy premier. The communique refers to the official talks held between the party and government delegations of the two countries, led respectively by Marcelino dos Santos and Gen Vo Nguyen Giap. The document says views were exchanged on internal developments in Mozambique and Vietnam: the development and consolidation of bilateral friendship and cooperation; and on other matters of common interest. The two sides reaffirmed their determination to continue developing the friendship and cooperation between the Frelimo Party and the Communist Party of Vietnam as a decisive factor in the development of relations between Mozambique and Vietnam. In the international field, Mozambique and Vietnam hailed the victory won by the Zimbabwean people in their armed struggle and reaffirmed their unequivocal support for the Namibian peoples' struggle under the leadership of SWAPO, demanding the immediate and complete implementation of the UN resolutions on Namibia. The two sides hailed the progress of the struggle of the South African ANC against apartheid and called for an end to South African aggression against Angola and Zambia. The two sides expressed concern over the Iran-Iraq conflict and called for a negotiated settlement. The Mozambique-Vietnamese communique also defined the position adopted by the two countries on the struggles of the Palestinian people and the people of East Timor.

ZIMBABWE

ZANU-PF OFFICE IN BEITBRIDGE HIT BY EXPLOSION

LD201358 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Nov 80 CA

[Text] An explosion in the ZANU-PF [Patriotic Front] offices in Beitbridge this morning caused extensive damage to the building and equipment. A ZANU-PF political coordinator for Matabeleland, Comrade (John Mbedzi), told the ZBC today that it is strongly believed that the attack may have been politically motivated. Comrade (Kmbedzi) said he was not yet aware of any police investigations into the incident. Police were not immediately available for comment on the explosion.